

Mubarak to visit U.S. in March

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will visit Washington in March for talks with President Reagan on future strategy for a settlement of the Middle East crisis, Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid said Tuesday. Mr. Abdul Maguid said in an interview with Cairo Radio the talks would "focus on how to bring all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), to the negotiating table." Egypt has called on the United States to negotiate with the PLO, which it maintains must be included in Middle East peace talks. But Washington has repeatedly echoed Israel's refusal to negotiate directly with the PLO. Mr. Abdul Maguid said Mr. Mubarak would also discuss other issues of interest to both countries during the visit, for which he gave no specific dates.

Egypt smiles at Israel to please U.S., page 4

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Iraq, Iran trade shelling charges

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq and Iran accused each other of attacking Tuesday residential areas on both sides of their common border. The official Iranian News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, Cyprus, said Iraqi jet fighters raided the town of Salehabad and the adjacent border villages of Ghalan and Ain Khosh in the Iranian Ilam province, wounding seven persons. However, the Iraqi war communiqué, which reports on the daily combat action of the 51-month-old Gulf war, did not include any reference to air attacks on Iranian targets. It accused Iranian gunners of shelling an unidentified "civilian installation in the suburbs of Basra," the southern Iraqi provincial capital. No casualties or damage were reported.

(Related stories on page 2)

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King congratulates Numeiri, Castro

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent congratulatory cables to Sudanese President Ja'afar Numeiri and Cuban President Fidel Castro on the occasions of the national days of Sudan and Cuba. In his cable to Mr. Numeiri, King Hussein congratulated him in the name of the King and on behalf of the people and government of Jordan on the Sudan's Independence Day and wished him and the Sudanese people every progress and prosperity. King Hussein congratulated President Castro on Cuba's national day and wished him success in leading his people towards progress and prosperity.

Qawasmeh family thanks government

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation representing the family of Fahd Al Qawasmeh, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member who was assassinated Saturday and laid to rest in Amman Monday, paid tribute to the Jordanian government Tuesday for facilitating the assassination of PLO official's funeral in Amman. Receiving the delegation at his office, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat said the assassination of Mr. Qawasmeh "brought sorrow and grief to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian family."

IDB lends \$20m to Jordan

BAHRAIN (R) — The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) said Tuesday it was giving Jordan a trade credit of \$20 million to purchase oil from Saudi Arabia. A bank statement also said the bank would extend a credit to Senegal to buy equipment worth \$5.8 million for the development of a textile factory there.

Saudis deny helping Mozambique rebels

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has denied a press report that it had supplied weapons to rebels of the National Resistance Movement (MNR) in Mozambique. The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) quoted an official source as saying the report was "unfounded." "Saudi policy does not stipulate interference in the affairs of any other state and Saudi Arabia does not interfere as a party in disputes among nations," the official source was quoted as saying.

Abu Musa stages appearance in Bekaa

TAALABAYA, Lebanon (R) — President Palestinian leader Abu Musa Monday addressed a Palestinian rally in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley in his first public appearance since he suffered a mild stroke on Nov. 22. Abu Musa (Colonel Sa'ed Musa), chief of the Fatah faction opposed to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, looked thin and exhausted as he spoke to about 3,000 armed supporters. Anxious aides interrupted his speech several times but Abu Musa, who spent three days in a Damascus hospital after his collapse, insisted he was well enough to complete it.

'There is no place in world except for strong'

Arafat pledges to escalate armed struggle

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Tuesday pledged to continue and to escalate armed struggle against Israel since "there is no place in this world but for the strong and powerful."

Mr. Arafat's pledge was contained in a message to the Palestinian people on the anniversary of Fatah, the biggest Palestinian commando group, which he, along with a number of other Palestinians, founded 20 years ago. "The method of armed struggle expresses the voice of the just and revolutionary gun, on which we (Fatah) laid its solid foundations 20 years ago... remains the main method of our... and the option that we will never abandon but instead will continue to nurse and nourish in order to guarantee its continuation and escalation," he said.

The Palestinian leader's affirmation that he has not and will never drop the gun came against a background of rising accusations by Syria and Syrian-backed Palestinian factions that Mr. Arafat and the Fatah leadership have "deserted armed struggle and plunged into capitulatory settlements for the Palestinian question."

Palestinians, Israeli soldiers clash as W. Bank marks Fatah anniversary

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli occupation forces clashed with Palestinians in the occupied West Bank during demonstrations Tuesday to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of Fatah, the mainstream commando movement in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and a memorial funeral for Fahd Qawasmeh, a member of the PLO Executive Committee who was shot dead Saturday and buried Monday in Amman.

In Gaza, a grenade thrown at an Israeli vehicle wounded a bystander and police defused two bombs in Jerusalem — one near the City Hall and the other near the Old City's Jaffa Gate.

In Hebron, an occupied West Bank city 40 kilometres south of Jerusalem, soldiers used tear gas to disperse 500 Palestinian demonstrators marking a memorial funeral for former Mayor Qawasmeh.

Mr. Qawasmeh was mayor of Hebron from 1976 until the Israeli expelled him to Jordan in 1980.

About 500 mourners, carrying a mock coffin, marched from a college outside Hebron but were stopped by troops who fired tear gas canisters and rubber bullets to disperse them.

The Palestine News Service said the troops also set fire to the coffin, which was draped in a green, red and black Palestinian flag.

Businesses, schools and Palestinian establishments in Hebron Monday observed a day of mourning for the assassinated PLO official and leading Palestinian leader.

Several instances were reported Monday when Palestinian demonstrators threw stones at Israeli soldiers.

The Israeli army was on the alert throughout Monday and Tuesday and several towns were under curfew.

In Bethlehem, Israeli soldiers quickly dispersed a demonstration by students chanting slogans condemning the Qawasmeh murder and reiterating support for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

revolution." It also warned "all those who continue on the same path of Mr. Qawasmeh to face the same fate."

Mr. Arafat's message on Tuesday, which was prepared before the assassination of Mr. Qawasmeh, came out with the PLO leader's clearest position yet against American-sponsored settlements and stressed the important role of military struggle in the PLO's strategy "to achieve a just solution for the Palestinian question."

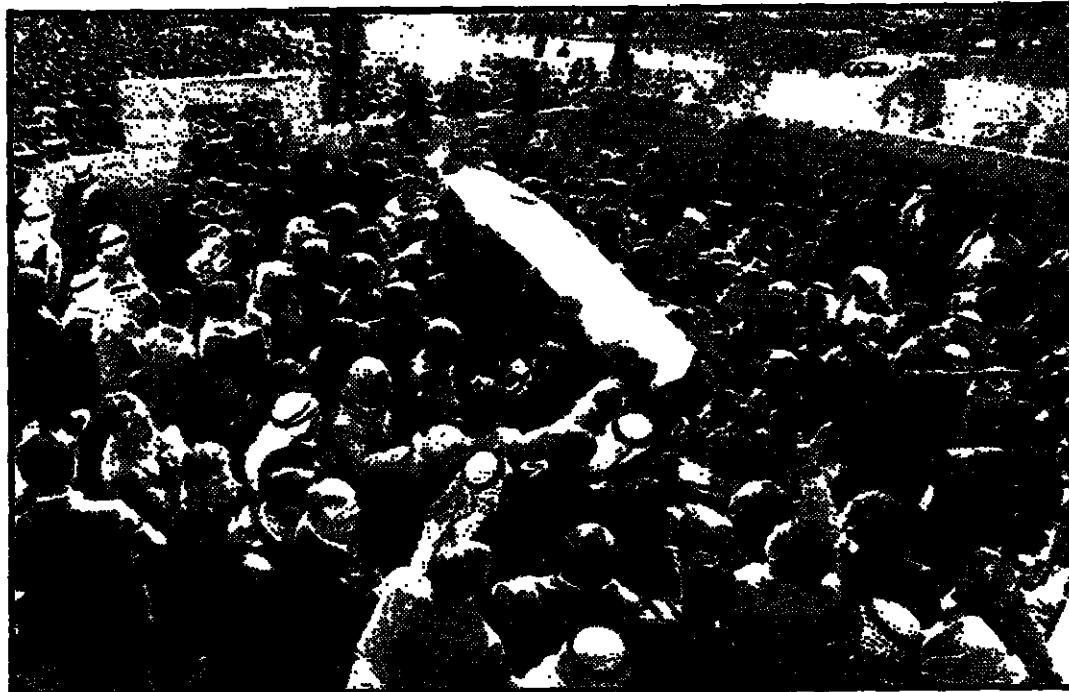
Mr. Arafat indicated in his message that any peaceful settlement in the Middle East will be determined by the balance of power in the area but also implied that within the unfavourable present balance of power a just settlement cannot be achieved.

"Our Arab Nation has to understand that a just peace is based on the military and political balance of power in the area," he said. "Therefore, any nation that drops its military option will not be able to survive historical challenges," he added.

The military option has to remain because "without it any peace that will be achieved within the current balance of power will be capitulation and not peace," Mr. Arafat declared.

The PLO leader attacked American policy in the Middle East and (Continued on page 3)

assassinated Saturday, carry his body to the grave after an emotion-charged funeral Monday (Photo by Youssef Al 'Arian)



Mourners and relatives of Fahd Al Qawasmeh, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member who was assassinated Saturday, carry his body to the grave after an emotion-charged funeral Monday (Photo by Youssef Al 'Arian)

Assassinated PLO leader laid to rest in Amman

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Fahd Al Qawasmeh, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member who was shot dead by unknown gunmen Saturday, was laid to rest in an emotion-charged ceremony in Amman Monday.

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zaid deputised for His Majesty King Hussein in the funeral, which was attended by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, senior Jordanian and PLO officials and a large crowd of mourners.

Thousands of people, some of them openly weeping and sobbing, accompanied Mr. Qawasmeh's body, wrapped in the tricolour Palestinian flag, on its way from the University of Jordan Hospital to the University Mosque, where prayers were held for the soul of the slain PLO leader, and to the Umm Al Hiran Cemetery where it was buried.

Slogans denouncing the Syrian leadership, whom Mr. Arafat has

accused of masterminding the assassination of Mr. Qawasmeh, rang out throughout the funeral procession.

"Assad is a coward," the slogans said, referring to the Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. "Down with Assad and his plans to liquidate the Palestinian cause," some others said.

In a funeral oration at the cemetery, Mr. Arafat repeated his accusation that Syria was involved in the killing of the PLO Executive Committee member, who served as the mayor of the Israeli-occupied city of Hebron until 1980 when he was deposed and exiled by the Israeli occupation authorities.

"When the Zionists failed to kill you (Mr. Qawasmeh) they deported you from Palestine," Mr. Arafat said. "What the Zionists could not achieve, the Syrian leaders have accomplished."

"The Zionists of the Arab World, represented by the rulers of Damascus, carried out the plot of executing Martyr Qawasmeh," he said.

"The Palestinian revolution will continue regardless of Mr. Qawasmeh's death," he said.

Mr. Qawasmeh was buried in a plot near to where Issam Sartawi, a leading PLO figure who was assassinated in Portugal in 1983, was laid to rest. The obstacles which the Syrian leaders have been planting along its path, all through its long march since the PLO's withdrawal from Beirut in 1982, the PLO chairman said.

Mustafa Natche, who was also deposed by the Israelis as deputy mayor of Hebron in 1983, also made a speech at Monday's funeral. He praised Mr. Qawasmeh's role in organising resistance against the Israeli occupation and said the PLO official's death was a "loss to the Palestinian cause."

Mr. Natche travelled from Hebron to Amman to attend the funeral after failing to secure the occupation authorities' permission to bury Mr. Qawasmeh's body in his hometown.

Ali Al Qawasmeh, also made a funeral speech on behalf of the deceased's family. He recalled the assassinated PLO leader's efforts to resist the Israeli occupation and the Jewish state's plans to terrorise the Palestinian population (Continued on page 3)

New Year signals hope over arms negotiations, Pravda says

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party daily Pravda said Tuesday the New Year brought fresh hope as the superpowers begin to talk to each other again on nuclear weapons.

Referring to next week's meeting in Geneva between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Pravda said: "The New Year gives rise to new hopes. It is with such sentiments that peace-minded people in the world have received the news of the new Soviet-American talks."

The paper again spelled out that space weapons are Moscow's top priority on the agenda — something which has repeatedly been stressed in a series of articles and statements since the Geneva meeting was announced last November.

Without an agreement on banning space weapons, "everything achieved in the field of arms limitation will be brought to naught," Pravda said.

Meanwhile, Kremlin leaders said the Soviet Union was prepared to do everything "to make the political climate... the planet healthy and deliver mankind from the nuclear threat."

In a message to the Soviet people published on all front pages Tuesday, they said the resumption of the East-West arms dialogue was on "the new initiative of the USSR."

The Kremlin message also exhorted the Soviet people "to make every working day of the coming year a day of hard work..."

Reagan looks set to push ahead with 'star wars', page 8

Syrian air force intelligence behind 'Black September', PLO official says

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Wednesday that "Black September", the group which claimed responsibility for the assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd Al Qawasmeh, is "directed by the Syrian air force intelligence department."

The official, who asked not to be named, told the Jordan Times that according to PLO findings "Brigadier Mohammad Al Khoul, head of the Syrian air force intelligence department, is the mastermind behind what is called 'Black September'."

International news agencies and Kuwaiti newspapers reported Sunday that they received anonymous calls from Rome from a group calling itself "Black September" which claimed responsibility for assassinating Mr. Qawasmeh outside his house in Amman last Saturday.

The PLO official said that Brig. Khoul is a senior advisor to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and "one of Assad's closest aids." He said that the Syrian air force intelligence department "is also the guardian of the Abu Nidal group which had murdered many PLO officials in the past."

The official was referring to a group, which had split from the mainstream Fatah faction, and

headed by Hassan Al Banna, better known as Abu Nidal. Abu Nidal was reported dead two months ago but Libya, which also supports the group, later denied the reports and claimed that Abu Nidal was received by Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi.

The PLO official in Amman did not clarify whether the "Black September" group is a new one or is just an extension of the Abu Nidal group.

Meanwhile in Amman, Jordan and the PLO have increased the number of security men who escort PLO officials amidst reports that Syria has dispatched assassins to eliminate a list of PLO officials.

Mr. Qawasmeh, like most independent PLO officials, did not have any bodyguards. But since his assassination the five PLO Executive Committee members living in Amman have been observed moving around with a number of armed Palestinian and Jordanian security men.

According to well-informed Palestinian sources the Syrian "hit-list" is believed to include all members of the PLO Executive Committee, members particularly the newly elected ones, along with a number of senior Fatah officials. Newly elected Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker

Abdul Hamid Al Saeh, who replaced the pro-Syrian Khaleel Al Fakhour last November, has also been provided with Palestinian and Jordanian security officers to escort him.

In an interview with the state-run Syrian Television, on the eve of Mr. Qawasmeh's assassination, Mr. Fakhour strongly attacked Mr. Qawasmeh, Mr. Saeh and PLO executive committee member Mohammad Milhem.

Palestinian sources, however, dismissed any possibility that Mr. Fakhour would be directly involved in any assassination plots but questioned the timing of the interview on Syrian Television.

They added that assassins were actually sent to Bangkok last week in an attempt to murder Mr. Milhem and PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Rahim Ahmad.

Both Mr. Milhem and Mr. Ahmad, who leads the Arab Liberation Front, were expected to make a stopover in Bangkok on their way back from China.

The two leaders, however, were warned by the PLO leadership and changed their route. They returned to Amman Monday and participated in Mr. Qawasmeh's funeral.

INSIDE

- Mubarak releases Coptic pope, page 2
- Labour, Social Development ministries to coordinate services, Abdul Jabbar says, page 3
- Bad year for Thatcher, worse for opposition, page 4
- At Sandhurst, military leadership is the focus, page 5
- Tottenham, Everton stay on course, page 6
- Report blames Israeli government for economic crisis, page 7
- New Indian cabinet gets mixed reaction, page 8

AL WAHA

AL WAHA STORES MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCES that the free shopping day for December 1984 was Thursday 27-12-1984. It also invites those who have purchased goods from Al Waha on that date to come to Al Waha stores during the period between Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1985 and Wednesday, Jan. 9, 1985 to obtain free goods.

Arab diplomatic moves underway to hold summit

RABAT (R) — Intense diplomatic efforts are under way to hold a long-delayed Arab summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, early next year, Arab diplomatic sources said here.

They said Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat — discreetly backed by Riyadh — were the main promoters of the new efforts to convene a summit.

Mr. Klibi visited Baghdad last week, while Mr. Arafat toured several Arab countries for talks which he said covered the holding of a summit.

Saudi Arabia was due to have hosted the 13th Arab summit in November 1983, but efforts to hold it then and since faltered over persisting inter-Arab disputes. The last summit was held in the Moroccan city of Fez in September 1982.

The sources said the current moves aim at holding the proposed summit in early February, but a number of Arab countries see the priority as convening a meeting of foreign ministers to pave the way for a summit.

There has been speculation recently in the Arab press that an Arab summit might take place in Riyadh on Jan. 28.

But a senior government official in the Gulf told reporters: "We are aware of the contacts... but so far we have received no invitation

or formal information on the subject."

King Hassan of Morocco, who met Mr. Klibi twice last month, proposed hosting a special Arab summit last September to discuss Jordan's decision to restore relations with Egypt, ostracised by most Arab states for signing a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Although King Hassan's envoys who toured Arab countries explained it would not replace the Riyadh summit but prepare for it, a majority of Arab leaders considered it untimely and the idea was dropped.

Diplomats in the Gulf said Saudi Arabia would be cautiously testing the ground in the next few weeks for holding a summit on its territory in early 1985.

The diplomats said Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies felt the time was ripe to call a summit amid signs of Arab accord on a number of crucial issues facing the Arab World.

The diplomats said Arab leaders agree on the need to settle the Lebanese problem by securing an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, the need to end the Iran-Iraq war and the need to address peace moves to settle the

Arab-Israeli dispute.

But Arab diplomats in Rabat said the main stumbling block was Syria, which fears a summit would re-endorse Mr. Arafat's PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Such a move would help Mr. Arafat defeat any attempt by PLO dissidents to set up an alternative Palestinian organisation, they added.

It was at a summit in Rabat in 1974 that Arab leaders first gave the PLO formal endorsement. Syria, however, now backs Palestinian dissidents opposed to Mr. Arafat's policies.

Mubarak releases Coptic pope

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Tuesday ordered the release of Pope Shenouda III, the spiritual leader of Egypt's estimated six million Copts. Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

The agency said, Pope Shenouda, stripped of his temporal powers and banished to a desert monastery north east of Cairo by the late President Anwar Sadat in September 1981, would resume his duties from Tuesday.

Pope Shenouda, 62, was accused by Mr. Sadat of fomenting sectarian strife and meddling in politics.

Pope Shenouda, who claims a following of up to 22 million mainly in Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Australia, Canada and the United States, is expected to conduct a Coptic Christmas mass at midnight on Jan. 6 at Saint Mark's Cathedral in central Cairo.

A senior government official said on Sunday about 4,000 Copts would be allowed to attend the service.

Under the Eastern Christian calendar, Christmas falls on Jan. 7. The Coptic Church was founded in the First Century AD by Saint Mark.

Pope Shenouda, an ex-soldier and journalist, was said by a senior church official last month to have been informed of Mr. Mubarak's decision in his monastery in Wadi Natroun, about 100 kilometres from Cairo.

Bulgaria, Egypt restore relations

BELGRADE (R) — Bulgaria and Egypt have resumed diplomatic relations, the Bulgarian news agency BTA reported Tuesday.

Egypt broke off relations with the communist country on Dec. 5, 1978, after a bizarre incident at the Bulgarian embassy in Cairo. Egyptian riot police moved into the embassy to break up a brawl apparently involving diplomatic staff and a group of local women who lived in the same building.



HASSAN SWORN IN: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is sworn in as Regent as His Majesty King Hussein prepares to leave for a visit to Saudi Arabia Tuesday (Petra photo)

Iranians reportedly head for Iraqi front

TEHRAN (R) — A Tehran newspaper has said tens of thousands of Iranian troops were heading for the Iran-Iraq border for a decisive battle in the war against Iraq.

The Farsi-language Islamic Republic, organ of the dominant Islamic Republican Party, reported a "great flood of popular forces continuing towards the front to deliver the final fatal blow".

It did not say where the troop buildups were taking place, but said fresh combat, specialist and service personnel had been despatched to the fronts.

Sources in Baghdad last week reported Iraqi troops moving up to reinforce the Misan sector of the front, in response to an Iranian buildup opposite the Iraqi town of Al Amarah.

Iraqi war communiques have reported hundreds of air raids on Iranian troops concentrations in the area in recent weeks.

Iran's National News Agency IRNA said Iraqi warplanes had hit the town of Bostan and a nearby village in south west Iran Sunday, killing at least 14 people and injuring nearly 100.

It said the attacks breached a U.N.-sponsored agreement between Iraq and Iran not to attack civilian centres.

But an Iranian Interior Ministry spokesman told Reuters Monday Bostan was a military area which had been closed to former residents.

A spokesman for the United Nations team in Tehran, to monitor compliance with the agreement said Iran had not asked for

an inspection of damage in the attacks.

The accord followed a string of attacks on civilian centres by both sides, including an Iraqi Air raid on the Kurdish town of Baneh during a religious celebration last June which Iran said killed more than 300 people.

Both sides have accused each other of further breaches of the agreement. But there has been no major ground fighting since late October, when Iran launched an offensive on the central sector.

Diplomats said after that operation they expected Iran to continue future offensives to actions aimed at driving Iraqi troops out of some 1,000 square kilometres of Iranian territory they have held since early in the 51-month-old war.

Iran, Iraq renew shipping attacks as Gulf war enters 1985

By John Owen Davies
Reuters

BAHRAIN (R) — The war between Iran and Iraq enters 1985 with renewed attacks by both sides on merchant shipping in the Gulf and reports that Iranian troops are about to launch a fresh ground offensive.

Latest moves to end the 51-month-old war, which has caused many thousands of casualties, have apparently failed and both sides have vowed to fight on.

Iraq, intent on straggling Iran's oil exports, resumed shipping raids on Dec. 3 after a six-week lull during which Iranian oil exports almost doubled to about two million barrels a day.

Since then, Iraq has launched air raids on six foreign ships, mainly tankers, while shipping sources say Iran has retaliated with attacks on three ships, including two tankers using the Saudi Arabian oil terminal at Ras Tanurah.

A total of 51 sizeable merchant vessels have been hit in raids by both sides so far this year, almost one a week.

Iraq has promised to continue attacks on shipping and the country's ruling Baath Party new-

spaper Al Thawra says "all vital targets deep inside Iraq" will be destroyed if Tehran launches a fresh offensive.

Authoritative sources in Baghdad said this week Iranian troops had been massed for a fresh offensive in a hilly area close to the border 40 kilometres east of the Iraqi town of Amara.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said in the North Yemeni capital of Sanaa last week there was no room for dialogue or peace with Iraq.

Iran-seeks the overthrow of the Iraqi government, Mr. Velayati, in Sanaa for a meeting of Islamic foreign ministers, said the war would continue until "complete victory".

He was speaking after the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) appealed to Iran and Iraq to cooperate with its good offices committee, which has made repeated attempts to mediate. Both countries belong to the 45-member OIC.

Diplomatic sources in the Gulf region say Iraq's latest offensive against shipping follows fresh deliveries of French arms to Baghdad and successful efforts by Iraq to boost its oil exports, mainly from

its Kharg Island terminal.

They said Iraq halted attacks in October when its talks with the United States on restoring diplomatic relations were in their final stages. Iraq also wanted to allow Gulf Arab states to try to formulate a fresh initiative to end the war.

Baghdad and Washington restored relations after a 17-year break in late November. But a summit meeting in Kuwait last month of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, which generally support Iraq, ended without any peace move being announced, apparently because of Iran's uncompromising stand.

The council groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

The sources said Iraq had received at least a dozen French built F-1C Mirage strike jets, and a "substantial number" of sea-skimming Exocet missiles in addition to the eight already being delivered each month.

Iraq, which has taken delivery of 40 Mirage F1s under earlier contracts, agreed in February 1982 to buy 29 F1-C's. The sources said the newly-arrived planes

Britain drew up plans in 1954 to invade Israel

LONDON (R) — Britain's service chiefs drew up a contingency plan in 1954 to invade Israel from the south, according to government records released Tuesday.

Britain had a treaty commitment to aid Jordan in the event of a major attack by Israel. Cabinet documents show that Britain drew up the invasion plan when pressed to say what action would be taken to honour this commitment.

The cabinet agreed, however, that the existence of the plan should not be disclosed at a forthcoming meeting of the Anglo-Jordan defence board.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill said that leakage of such a plan would have "very grave consequences". Foreign Secretary Sir Anthony Eden said that under the treaty a threat of aggression meant that Britain and Jordan would consult.

According to the cabinet records, Sir Anthony suggested that Mr. Churchill remind Israel of Britain's treaty commitments and urge the government to avoid any provocative action.

British cabinet papers are traditionally made public after 30 years, unless they contain particularly sensitive material.

The cabinet papers also revealed that a British government official once described former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin "a viper" who should be firmly repelled.

The description came from a senior Foreign Office official, commenting in a memorandum on a request from Mr. Begin for a visa.

The memorandum noted that Mr. Begin was the former leader of the Irgun guerrilla group, which was responsible for bomb attacks in Palestine during the last years of the British mandate there.

At the time of his visa inquiry, Mr. Begin was leader of Israel's extreme nationalist party, Herut.

The Foreign Office official said it was presumptuous of Mr. Begin even to make the inquiry.

I hope we shall firmly repel this viper from our bosom. One should not dwell on the past but there are limits to forgiveness and expediency," the official wrote.

U.S.-Israeli exercises were reportedly successful

HAIFA, Israel (AP) — A U.S. Navy captain who took part in the first joint military exercise between the United States and Israel described it as a great success and said he hoped more would be held.

The exercise held on Dec. 11 and 12, involved the Aircraft Carrier USS Eisenhower, the USS Mississippi missile cruiser and Israeli military vessels.

Mississippi said Monday the Israelis and Americans performed anti-submarine warfare exercises.

Capt. Olson said the manoeuvres with Israel "needed more and additional planning because it was being done for the first time."

But he added that they were "of great professional value to both sides. I would like to see future exercises."

Numeiri warns guerrillas of links with Libya

CAIRO (R) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri has warned rebels seeking his overthrow that links with Libya would only bring them destruction and urged them to start peace talks. Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported Tuesday.

MENA, in a dispatch from the southern Sudanese town of Juba, quoted Mr. Numeiri as saying: "Those who want to impose their views with arms should join a dialogue. The principles and arms of (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi will only bring them destruction and annihilation."

The Sudanese leader has repeatedly accused Libya and Ethiopia of aiding guerrillas in the south. Both deny this.

Mr. Numeiri, marking Sudan's 29th anniversary of independence with a tour he began Monday of the troubled south, said he would extend what he called the experimental decentralisation of the south for a further period which he did not specify.

The Sudanese leader divided the south into three parts in 1983 saying this was aimed at improving the performance of local authorities.

The south, granted autonomy in 1972 after 17 years of civil war, viewed the division as an attempt by the Khartoum government to

weaken the mainly Christian and Pagan region.

MENA said Mr. Numeiri, in power since a bloodless military coup he led in 1969, called in a separate speech Monday in the town of Wau in the southern province of Bahri Al Ghazal for local leaders to help "the masses stand up to those who threaten their security and stability."

Meanwhile a Sudanese military statement said Monday that Sudanese troops have repulsed a rebel attack on a southern military post near the Ethiopian border, killing 25 rebels and wounding several others.

The statement, carried by the official Sudan News Agency, said 500 "outlaws" were involved in the attack on Saturday on the Boing military post in the southern province of Upper Nile. Two soldiers were killed in the clash. Automatic rifles and Soviet-made explosives were captured by the troops who are now in full control of the area, the statement added.

On Sunday, another military statement said that 83 rebels were killed when troops stormed a rebel camp in southern Sudan on Friday.

The government said last week 600 rebels were killed in a battle in the Jangile area of southern Sudan.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
JAN CHANNEL
17:00 Koran
17:15 Cartoons
18:00 Children's Programme
18:30 Sports
19:30 Programme Review
19:40 News Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:20 News in Arabic
21:35 Arabic Series
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Programme
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Documentary
21:00 News in English
22:30 The Hotel

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Oh! Mother
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Old Favourites
16:30 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

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639, 720, 1413 KHz
06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Waveguide Rep.

07:00 World News 07:30 World News 07:45 World News 08:00 World News 08:15 World News 08:30 World News 08:45 World News 09:00 World News 09:15 World News 09:30 World News 09:45 World News 10:00 World News 10:15 World News 10:30 World News 10:45 World News 11:00 World News 11:15 World News 11:30 World News 11:45 World News 12:00 World News 12:15 World News 12:30 World News 12:45 World News 13:00 World News 13:15 World News 13:30 World News 13:45 World News 14:00 World News 14:15 World News 14:30 World News 14:45 World News 15:00 World News 15:15 World News 15:30 World News 15:45 World News 16:00 World News 16:15 World News 16:30 World News 16:45 World News 17:00 World News 17:15 World News 17:30 World News 17:45 World News 18:00 World News 18:15 World News 18:30 World News 18:45 World News 19:00 World News 19:15 World News 19:30 World News 19:45 World News 20:00 World News 20:15 World News 20:30 World News 20:45 World News 21:00 World News 21:15 World News 21:30 World News 21:45 World News 22:00 World News 22:15 World News 22:30 World News 22:45 World News 23:00 World News 23:15 World News 23:30 World News 23:45 World News 24:00 World News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, SW 7200, 9505, 11700, 11925 & 15210 KHz
06:00 VOA Morning News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour. 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News and Features 21:00 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* The first annual book exhibition organized by the Department of Library, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA), at Rusaifa Sports Club.

* An art exhibition by Nawal Rabi Al Abuhalla at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 10).

* An art exhibition entitled "A Portrait of 19th Century Jordan" at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 3).

* An exhibition of paintings by Egyptian artist Ahmad Shiba at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) (Wednesday).

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CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel: 6610267
American Centre - 44371
American Centre Library - 41520
British Council - 36147-4
French Cultural Centre - 37009
Goethe Institute - 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre - 34049
Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777
Haye Arts Centre - 665195
Hays Youth City - 667181
Y.W.C.A. - 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251
Amman Municipal Library - 36111
University of Jordan Library - 84355

SERVICE CLUBS

Lease Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lease Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lease Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lease Rotaract Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Lease Automobile Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lease El Club. Tel. 816534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubdah, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 33541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.
Assiout Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at South Eastern Baptist School in Shamsani, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES

05:11 Fair
06:39 (Sunrise) Dhuha
11:39 Dhuhur
14:23 'Asr
16:41 Maghrib
18:08 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:50 Cairo (MS)
07:40 Karachi (PK)
08:30 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Sanaa (Y)
09:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00 Kuwait (RJ)
10:20 Beirut (RJ)
10:25 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
10:40 Kuwait (KU)
10:50 Jeddah (SV)
11:00 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (LA)
11:30 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (LH)
11:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:40 London, Paris (RJ)
17:40 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:45 Bucharest, Istanbul (LH)
18:00 Rome (Alitalia)
18:10 Paris, Damascus (TA)
18:30 Bangkok (KJ)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:00 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
19:25 Beirut (MEA)
20:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
22:20 Cairo (RJ)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:30 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
06:50 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Beirut (RJ)
07:15 Agaba (RJ)
07:50 Cairo (EA)
08:00 Athens (OK)
08:05 Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
12:00 Belgrade, London (RJ)
12:05 Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
14:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)
14:40 Sanaa (SV)
15:40 Kuwait (KU)
15:40 Jeddah (SV)
16:00 Baghdad (LA)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
19:40 Doha (RJ)
20:00 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:10 Jeddah (SV)
20:15 Sanaa (SV)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)
23:10 Cairo (EA)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Moss Pijal
— Al Farabi
— Mieczyslaw Kalin
— Peru
— Mikail Mushfik
— Hodeidah Crown
— Al Kindi
— Koreiz
— Husl Traveller

Amman Kavar and Sons Company, Tel: 23334 (six lines) at your service.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with chances for scattered showers. Light and variable winds will become southwesterly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Lowest temperature in deg.C:
Amman 10/19
Agaba 15/13
Dumars 2/5
Jordan Valley 9/19

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 14, Aqaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 74 per cent, Aqaba 56 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc 64.4
Dutch guilder 115.5
Egyptian pound 300 305.3
French franc 41.9 42.2
Iraqi dinar 340 348.3
Italian lire (for 100) 20.7 20.9
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.6 161.5
Kuwaiti dinar 132.5 133.6
Lebanese lira 44.7 45.8
Omani rial 115.9 116.3
Qatari riyal 110.5 111.3
Saudi riyal 112.7 113.6
Swiss franc 45.9 45.3

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hassan condoles Al Fayez family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday called at the residence of the late Sheikh Ali Mithqal Al Fayez and extended his condolences to the Al Fayez family and Bani Sakhr tribes on the death of the late Sheikh Ali.

Decree approves communications law

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing the Special Communications Committee law after it was approved by both Houses of Parliament. The new committee will be responsible for planning, constructing, operating and maintaining the extended microwave network and for its development.

Ministers discuss agricultural marketing

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar Monday presided over a meeting at the Ministry of Industry and Trade. The talks were attended by the ministers of industry and trade, finance and agriculture in addition to representatives from the Jordanian Company for Marketing Agricultural Products. During the meeting, various aspects of the company's work, the stages it has achieved and its future plans were discussed.

Telephones to be installed in cars

AMMAN (Petra) — The telephones in cars project will be put into operation by the end of February. Minister of Communications and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Telecommunications Corporation Mohammad Al Zaben has said. Dr. Zaben said the new cars telephones regulation will be submitted to the cabinet for discussion and approval in preparation for meeting requests to install telephones in cars. Dr. Zaben also pointed out that 50,000 telephone lines will be provided in the various parts of the country during 1985.

Passport Department collects JD 2.3 m

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Passport Department collected JD 2,378,680 in fees for issuing 118,934 passports during the year 1984, director general of the Passport Department, Mr. Mohamad Al Qudah, has said. Mr. Qudah said that the department also collected JD 432,736 in fees for 32,078 other transactions, including pilgrims' tickets to occupied Palestine, renewal of permanent and temporary passports, additions and extensions of passports validity for Gazans, in addition to issuing special passports and other certificates.

No chilled imported meat until Jan. 6

AMMAN (Petra) — Fresh chilled meat imported by the Ministry of Supply will not be distributed for a certain period due to the Christmas holidays in the countries of origin, a spokesman for the Ministry of Supply said Monday. Chilled fresh beef will not be distributed on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 2, 3 and 4, while chilled fresh mutton will not be distributed on Thursday and Friday Jan. 3 and 4. The source said that the ministry will redistribute fresh chilled beef and mutton on Sunday, Jan. 6.

Ajlouni allocates parking for handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni has decided to allocate a special parking lot for the vehicles belonging to handicapped persons to enable them to easily visit hospital physicians.



Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat (second right) presents awards to researchers who have helped to further developmental projects in the country. The awards were made during a ceremony held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce. (Petra photo)

Obeidat highlights importance of agricultural research, development

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat has stressed the importance of agriculture for Jordan, describing it as the basic cornerstone in the country's economy. He said that His Majesty King Hussein, the government and the Jordanian people are all keen on developing agriculture and food production.

The prime minister was speaking at a ceremony held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce where he distributed awards to those excelling in a programme organised by the Al Hussein Fund for Development Studies.

Mr. Obeidat expressed his appreciation to the fund's board of directors for supporting scientific research projects and activities in the country, especially those which are connected with agricultural wealth.

He urged those concerned to intensify their efforts "for developing agriculture in order to help build up the country under King Hussein's leadership."

The prime minister stressed the need for encouraging research work in view of the fact that Jordan is now about to launch a new five-year development plan. He expressed hope that the fund's board would organise seminars and lectures aimed at promoting research and study work. Mr. Obeidat also announced the government's donation of JD 5,000 to help finance the fund's research programmes.

Research awards

Among those receiving awards was Dr. Mansour Utoun, director of employment at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, for his research work on disciplinary action for civil servants. His award was JD 1,000. Another recipient was Mr. Muhib Abdul Fatah for his work on irrigation techniques in the Jordan Valley.

At the outset of the ceremony, Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani made a speech expressing his appreciation to the prime minister for sponsoring the ceremony and voiced his gratitude to the King and prime minister for their keenness to promote development and research projects.

Dr. Anani said that the fund will continue its work towards supporting the research projects in Jordan and thanked those taking part in the fund's programme. Also addressing the ceremony was Dr. Bassam Al Saket, chairman of the fund's technical committee, who outlined the objectives and aims of the fund, mainly in carrying out development projects. The fund has plans for holding lectures, seminars and conducting studies in development, he said.

The ceremony was attended by cabinet members, university professors, representatives of the Royal Scientific Society and invited guests.

Local experts to translate, restore Omani documents

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Oman will embark on a joint project to restore and translate a number of valuable Omani documents and manuscripts. Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Taher Hikmat said Tuesday.

Mr. Hikmat, who arrived in Amman after a five-day official visit to Oman, said that Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLNA) Director General Ahmad Shams will visit Oman to coordinate with Omani officials in drawing up the necessary arrangements for achieving this goal.

Another Jordanian delegation, headed by the director general of the Antiquities Department and comprising a number of Jordanian

experts in the field of antiquities, will also visit Oman to contribute to the study and restoration of the castles of the Sultanate of Oman. Mr. Hikmat added that it has also been agreed that a number of Omani staff will receive training at the Antiquities Department.

During his visit to Oman Mr. Hikmat discussed issues pertaining to cultural, archaeological and tourist fields, in addition to discussing the holding of a national Omani cultural week in Jordan during April.

He also discussed with the Omani minister of industry and trade promotion of Omani tourism to Jordan and benefiting from Jordan's expertise in the field of internal tourism.

Labour, Social Development Ministries to coordinate services, Abdul Jaber says

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development is currently working on taking the necessary measures to achieve coordination, correlation and balance between the staff of the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Social Development, Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jaber said Tuesday.



Tayseer Abdul Jaber

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Dr. Abdul Jaber said that the ministry will reconsider the legislative aspects of the organisation and administration of both the Ministries of Social Development and Labour and that many organisational measures will be taken to ensure more coordination and integration between the two ministries after they were merged into one.

Another idea of the ministry is related to merging the labour efforts into those of the Ministry of Social Development, in relation to labour culture, population culture and training in social fields with the aim of creating a new centre for developing and training labourers and social workers, Dr. Abdul Jaber said.

Independent departments

The amalgamation does not mean that all administrative matters will be merged, because every department will remain independent from the other financially and administratively and each one will be headed by an under-secretary or a director general, in accordance with the arrangements to be worked out by the committee for administrative development, he said.

Dr. Abdul Jaber added that his ministry has specific perceptions in order to avoid the duplication of work. Among these, Dr. Abdul Jaber said, are amalgamating the labour offices and the social development centres in the various parts of Jordan, with the exceptions of the offices located in the governorates centres and in Zarqa and Aqaba. He said that the aim of this amalgamation is to utilise staff in rendering better services in addition to saving rental costs for offices.

Social centres

According to the new perception, the responsibility for supervising the prequalification and training of handicapped and juveniles will rest with the vocational training corporation whenever this is possible, he added. We will also work on developing the Princess Rahma Development Centre in Allan into a regional centre for rural development, the minister said.

Speaking about the aid programme to poor families he said that this project should be reconsidered and stressed the need to establish a fund for social welfare in cooperation with the Social Security Corporation and other social institutions.

Dr. Abdul Jaber said that there will be no new appointments in the Ministry of Labour and Social Development except for the replacement of staff whose services are terminated for one reason or another. He also said that the ministry will train staff from the ministry in various fields of work so that they can take over from one another when there is a need for this.

Dr. Abdul Jaber stressed the importance of the Ministry of Social Development which, he said, deals with the citizen from his childhood through to old age in addition to dealing with juveniles, labourers, retired persons and disabled people. The ministry's programmes will not succeed if they do not receive the cooperation of the private sector and all institutions which are capable of extending help, Dr. Abdul Jaber said.

The ministry's policy is based on many aspects, the most important of which is constructing institutions and centres for disabled persons, juveniles and abandoned children because at present the number of such centres is insufficient, unsuitable and cannot absorb the large numbers registered on the waiting lists, the minister said. Dr. Abdul Jaber paid tribute to the efforts of charitable societies and pledged support and encouragement for such societies.

Islamic scholars call for developing preaching, guidance techniques

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The first annual conference on Islamic preaching and guidance concluded its meetings here Monday at the Royal Cultural Centre recommending that Jordan adopt and specify a clear philosophy for all preaching and guidance institutions based on the ideological framework of the country.

The conference also recommended that all guidance programmes must be directed and developed in a continuous, comprehensive and creative framework. The conference, organised by the Ministry of Aqwaq and Islamic Affairs and attended by over 200 Islamic scholars from different Islamic countries and representing different Islamic organisations, discussed during its last day three working papers prepared by Jordanian professors and Islamic scholars.

"The Islamic Message and the Modern Communication System" was the title of a paper discussed Monday and prepared by Mr. Kamel Al Sharif, the former minister of Aqwaq and Islamic Affairs. Mr. Juma'a Hammad, a member of the Senate and a prominent journalist, Mr. Nasouh Al Majali, director general of the broadcasting service, Mr. Munir Durra, director general of Jordan Television, Dr. Ibrahim Al Kilani, professor at the University of Jordan and Mr. Hassan Al Tal, a journalist.

The paper recommended the formation of a supreme media committee representing different concerned governmental organisations and members, increasing programmes about Islam and censoring programmes presented for the sake of entertainment and to instead show programmes that do not contradict Islamic beliefs.

During the evening session the participants listened to a research paper presented by Dr. Hani Abdul Rahman and Dr. Ali Faqir from the University of Jordan entitled "Cooperation Between Different Guidance Organisations in the Kingdom." The research paper specified the guidance organisation represented in mosques, Islamic centres, educational centres, different media outlets such as television and radio, social, cultural and rehabilitation centres and charitable organisations.

The research also called on the different guidance institutes to avoid duplication and contradiction between the various guidance institutions and to take the initiative in addressing the whole world about the Islamic religion.

Cable to Hussein

At the conclusion of the conference, Minister of Aqwaq and Islamic Affairs Aqwaq Khalaf Dawoudh sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein thanking the King for patronising and addressing the opening session of the conference. Mr. Dawoudh said that the King's address was considered as one of the main working papers of the conference. He added that the conference attach great hopes that King Hussein will continue to support preaching and guidance. Mr. Dawoudh also wished the King success "in achieving the message of his great grandfather."

Arafat vows to step up armed struggle

(Continued from page 1)

described U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposals of September, 1982, for peace in the Middle East as "dangerous."

"The American administration throws its nets in the shape of peace proposals and plans which only carry the title of peace but in essence are schemes to consolidate and legitimise the results of the Israeli aggression, which contravenes the basic rights and aspirations of the peoples of this area," he said.

Mr. Arafat's strong attack against American peace proposals and his commitment to escalate armed struggle did not mean, however, that the PLO was moving away from political moves in search for a peaceful settlement.

"The gun and the olive branch remain embraced," Mr. Arafat said. "The gun will always be used in the service of our political and holy goal of restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Mr. Arafat explained that the PLO will always aim at forging all Arab abilities — "away from the politics of polarisation" — to achieve the aim of establishing an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The PLO will continue talks with Jordan "to reach a common platform for future joint political moves," will work "for the return

of Egypt to the Arab fold and away from Camp David" and participate in efforts to put an end to the four-year-old war between Iran and Iraq. Mr. Arafat said in his message.

Mr. Arafat also warned of the dangerous consequences of what he described as American-sponsored withdrawal talks between Lebanon and Israel in the South Lebanese town of Naqoura. He charged that the U.S. is trying to adopt a settlement in South Lebanon which "is by no means less dangerous than the Camp David accord" signed between Egypt and Israel in 1979, he said.

Mr. Arafat indirectly accused Syria of pledging to the U.S. to force decisions taken at the Naqoura talks on the Lebanese people. "The Americans are in agreement with a certain Arab party which pledged to force the Lebanese people to accept the Naqoura talks despite the fact that they include two articles that ban the return of Palestinian commandos to South Lebanon and guarantee the security of the northern borders of the Zionist entity," he said.

VTC encourages students to pursue skilled professions

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While Jordan's educational system is now producing more than enough professionals, through the three universities in the country, and technicians, through 46 community colleges training around 30,000 students in 80 specialisations, there is still a shortage of skilled, partially skilled and unskilled workers in the industrial and agricultural sectors, which forces the country to import foreign manpower.

A study conducted in June 1984 by the World Bank revealed that, for the next few years, the country will have a surplus of nearly all categories, except for agricultural and industrial workers.

"The diminished request for professionals and highly skilled technicians in the Gulf States is forcing many Jordanians who were working there to return," says Dr. Munther Al Masri, president of the Vocational Training Corporation VTC in Jordan. "On top of that, our universities are now producing a very large number of graduates considered as one of the largest in the world. Graduates and technicians far exceed our local needs and we are actually starting to feel problems of unemployment, even among engineers and physicians, which, traditionally, are regarded as benefiting the most from openings towards a successful career."

Dr. Al Masri believes that it will be practically impossible to obtain enough unskilled and semiskilled local workers, even in years from now. "The educational system in Jordan is far ahead of our economic activities," he explains. "After nine years of compulsory education, most people prefer to study two more years and get some kind of specialisation that will ensure a higher pay. No-one really chooses to become an unskilled worker except under strong economic pressures. This is why we will most probably continue to depend on foreign manpower to fill these needs."

Labourers

Dr. Al Masri says that a study of labourers joining the workforce in Jordan during the years 1981-85 showed that, on average, males have 11.6 years of education, females 10.3 with a total average of 11.1.

"These numbers are high even compared to other countries," he said. "Only the drop-outs from schools become unskilled labourers, but they are a relatively

small number compared to the needs of a developing country, such as ours, which still relies on manual labour."

As far as skilled workers are concerned, Dr. Al Masri believes that it will take the next five years to make a breakthrough, and it is in this very area that VTC is directing most of its efforts.

"Skilled workers," Dr. Al Masri explains, "are trained in Jordan, in three different types of institutions. The first comprises secondary vocational schools, including grades 10-12, with a full programme which specialises in technical skills and leads to a general examination after which a student can choose to continue his studies." Most of these schools are run by the Ministry of Education. Second are the training centres, similar to the vocational schools, but more practically oriented. These schools, also almost exclusively run by the Ministry of Education, offer a two year course which follows compulsory studies. Dr. Al Masri explained.

The third type of schools includes the apprenticeship centres which are run by the VTC. These programmes and methods of training are basically similar to the

training centres, but, in the first ones, the practical element is mostly acquired on the job. In a training centre a student is a fulltime student. In an apprenticeship centre students are employed by local employers at reduced wages and spend three days a week on the job, and three days at the centre. Even while on-the-job, however, the students, who are usually employed in groups of about 20, are not left on their own but are followed by their VTC trainer who makes sure the programme is adhered to.

At the centre, one of the three days is devoted to general education, one to technical theory and one to practical work. The VTC is training, at present, about 6,000 students in 10 operating centres around the country. Most of them are, naturally, located in the Amman-Zarqa area which comprises 70% of the population, but there are also centres in the Irbid area, in the Jordan Valley and Madaba. The Aqaba centre is still developing and more centres are planned for the southern part of the Jordan Valley.

The centres vary in size and facilities. Some, such as the one in Aqaba and some in the Jordan Valley, are using, at present, Ministry of Education buildings for their training activities. "We only need class facilities," Dr. Al Masri says, "since most of the practical skills are taught on the job at the employer's premises."

Most of the VTC centres only teach industrial skills which comprise about 20-25 specialisations. This line of study was the priority at the beginning and remained so until 2 years ago. Now, two of the centres are also offering agricultural specialisations and one in Amman offers hotel training. The VTC is planning to include hotel training as one of the specialisations offered by the Aqaba centre as well.

Upgrading courses

The VTC also offers upgrading programmes for people who are already employed but who want to upgrade their skills. Usually, about 2,000 workers per year enroll in these courses. "In Jordan," Dr. Al Masri explains, "there are few or no restrictions on job classification. Anyone can work as a plumber or an electrician if he says he is one. There is no agency to certify whether one is qualified or not. This is a cause of the low sta-



Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat (second left) chats to an apprentice in industrial training during a tour of the Vocational Training Corporation's facilities and workshops (J.T.).



And now for 1985

LOOKING back on the year in the Middle East produces, inevitably, grounds for both optimism and pessimism about the prospects for 1985.

1984 was the year in which it became clear that Israel had suffered its first major defeat in a war against the Arabs. The elements of this defeat accumulated slowly compared to other lightning campaigns: the collapse of the right-wing Christian regime which Israel had hoped to install in Beirut; the ascendancy of Syria; and the rise of the Lebanese national resistance movement. When Israel does eventually withdraw from southern Lebanon, as it must, it will be because an Arab armed resistance has forced it out on its own terms. The implications of this historical reverse may yet be more significant than all the previous Arab-Israeli conflicts. In the short-term alone, it is a lesson of the dangers Israel faces in seeking to impose its order of things on the Arabs by force of arms.

The end of the year also sees grounds for optimism in that a new realism is in the process of emerging in the Arab World, both with regard to the need for Egypt to be a part of the concerted Arab peace movement and, within the PLO, as to what can be achieved and the means of going about it. There is renewed talk of the principle of territory for peace and of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations, both almost universally recognised as paths to a solution. In Lebanon there has been a vast improvement in the internal situation. For the latter achievement Syria deserves credit, as without its support the process of reconciliation in Lebanon would have been a non-starter. It is one of the past year's most notable developments that Syria has risen to a position of unprecedented dominance in the region, mainly because of President Assad's adroit capitalisation of the ill-conceived U.S. and Israeli intervention in Lebanon. But there are signs now that Syria is using its new-found influence in Lebanon as a brake to be applied at will to the wider peace process. It cannot be a cause for optimism that Syria has succeeded in acquiring such leverage but it is nevertheless part of the new equation in the region that Syria will have to be included in any settlement.

To underestimate Syria's capacity to disrupt any settlement for the region from which it feels excluded would be a grave miscalculation. On the other hand, allowing Syria to wield the power of veto over a peace initiative would be equally dangerous. The only sure way of preventing Syria using the Lebanon issue as just such a veto is for Israel to concede its failure there and cut its losses by withdrawing. If it continues to press for unreasonable terms the conclusion must be that it, too, finds Lebanon a convenient way of preempting a wider settlement. And on the Arab side, Syrian dominance is best countered by greater Arab unity, both by drawing Egypt further into the fold and by finding a solution to the futile Gulf conflict, whose continuation into the new year must be counted one of 1984's worst failures.

It is likewise grounds for pessimism that in Washington the tendency seems to be growing to turn away from the region altogether, recent months having seen little activity beyond some low-key diplomacy aimed at getting Israel off the hook it has hung itself on in Lebanon. But putting the Middle East on the back burner at this juncture should not be an option. Instead of arguing over the precise point at which U.S. combat troops should be introduced to a crisis abroad U.S. Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger would be better employed in trying to obviate the need to send them at all by tackling the crisis at root and in advance of the next round of bloodshed. To do that, the agenda for 1985 needs to include exploiting the enormous potential America has to influence Israel and encourage the Arab peace movement — Middle East International, London.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Last to speak of peace

WISHES FOR peace expressed by Israeli President Chaim Herzog on New Year's Eve do not contribute to achieving the sought peace, because Israel is the last party who can speak about peace or even to express its interest in establishing peace. This fact was discovered and voiced publicly by the German Greens parliamentary delegation, which announced, following a visit to Israel, that Israel is the only party in the area which does not want peace. Moreover, the Israeli daily practices against our people in the occupied Arab territories come to refute the Israeli allegations regarding peace in our area.

Establishing peace in the Middle East demands a real and unified Arab work based on a strong Arab force which is our indispensable element for putting an end to the state of no peace no war currently prevailing in the Arab world, and which Israel cares for its continuity and exploitation in implementing its aggressive plans.

Peace has never been an Israeli option and Israel will never think of it unless it comes to the conviction that the Arab situation has changed and become able to restore Arab rights.

A sound Arab role is the only basis for establishing peace and the honourable choice they can opt for is a unified and strong Arab stand.

Al Dustour: Exit black, enter 1985

NOW THAT the new year has begun, we hope that it will be better than the previous one and that Arabs will be able to create a decent life.

Despite the fact that we share with the world many of its concerns and challenges and being like other nations, threatened by wars, conflicts and lack of peace, we in the Arab World have our special and distinguished concerns and problems which are more severe and challenging.

The year 1984 was characterised by a state of disability for the Arab World because fighting and internal disputes were the prevailing trend during that year.

Had it not been for a glimmer of hope and a confidence in the eventuality to overcome the Arab self-ordeal, the torch of light would not have stood in the face of the black and strong wind which blew from every direction in the Arab World. But the wind could not extinguish the flaming pieces of coal under the ashes.

While hoping that the new year would be characterised by less poverty and less suffering, we look forward to see Arabs overcome their ordeals.

Sawt Al Shaab: 1984: Little achieved

WITH THE end of the year 1984 and the beginning of the new year, we must have a pause during which we review the events of the last year and their impact on humanity in general and on our Arab World in particular.

1984 was not a year of great change nor did it witness an aspired shift in the Arab situation, because it constituted a continuity of the state of weakness and deterioration in our Arab World, thus aggravating the danger threatening our existence and destiny.

A quick look at the Arab situation reveals that Arabs were unable to overcome any of the big problems that faced them during the year 1984. The Iran-Iraq war has continued and the Palestine problem is still in a state of freeze and is gradually getting out of the focus of international consideration and attention while the fierce Israeli attacks on our people in the occupied Arab territories are still going on and are even escalating.

Lebanon is also still bleeding under the blows of factional fighting and Israeli occupation. The Islamic world is also unable to overcome the differences paralyzing its abilities and obstructing its advancement.

The new year represents a stage in our long and difficult march, which we should face with confidence and faith.

Egypt smiles at Israel to please U.S.

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt's agreement in principle to talk with Israel on a border dispute is seen in part as a bid to shore up links with Washington before President Hosni Mubarak's visit there early next year.

Mr. Mubarak, who has been pushing for closer ties to the Arab World, criticising the United States' Middle East policy and calling for a role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation in any future settlement, is tentatively scheduled to visit the United States in February.

During this talks with President Ronald Reagan, Mr. Mubarak is

expected to discuss not only prospects for reviving the peace process but also increased U.S. economic aid.

Some Western diplomats, who spoke on condition they not be identified, believe Mr. Mubarak's chances for a favourable hearing by both Congress and the administration will be enhanced if he is seen as having made conciliatory gestures to Israel Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Western and Arab diplomats have said the United States has been urging Egypt to make such gestures to Mr. Peres, who is believed more receptive towards reaching a settlement with the Arabs than his Likud predecessors.

"Egypt wants to be a mediator

between the Arabs and Israel," said one diplomat, "and you can't do that if you don't talk with both sides."

Last Thursday, Foreign Ministry spokesmen in both Cairo and Jerusalem confirmed that contacts are underway aimed at renewing talks on Taba, a one-square-kilometre tract in the Sinai Peninsula claimed by both sides.

Although the spokesmen said no date has been set, both Israel's army radio and Egypt's October magazine said the talks were likely to be held in mid-January.

Mr. Mubarak has listed resolution of the Taba issue, an Israeli troop pullout from southern Lebanon and improvements on the occupied West Bank of the

Jordan River and Gaza Strip as his conditions for returning Egypt's ambassador to Tel Aviv and accepting Mr. Peres' offer of a summit.

But with talks between Israel and Lebanon on a troop pullout deadlocked and facing collapse, one senior diplomat said Egypt believes Taba offers the best chance of the three conditions for progress by the time Mr. Mubarak visits Washington.

The Egyptian-Israeli contacts come at a time when Cairo's efforts to win diplomatic recognition in the rest of the Arab World appear to have stalled. The Egyptians were hoping other Arab countries, notably Iraq, would follow Jordan's lead and restore formal relations.

Last Sept. 25 Jordan restored ties with Egypt, severed by 16 Arab countries, over Egypt's signing of a U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace accord with Israel.

But three months later, no other Arab country has followed suit. Countries Egypt considered prime candidates for restoration, including North Yemen and Iraq, have showed no signs in such a direction.

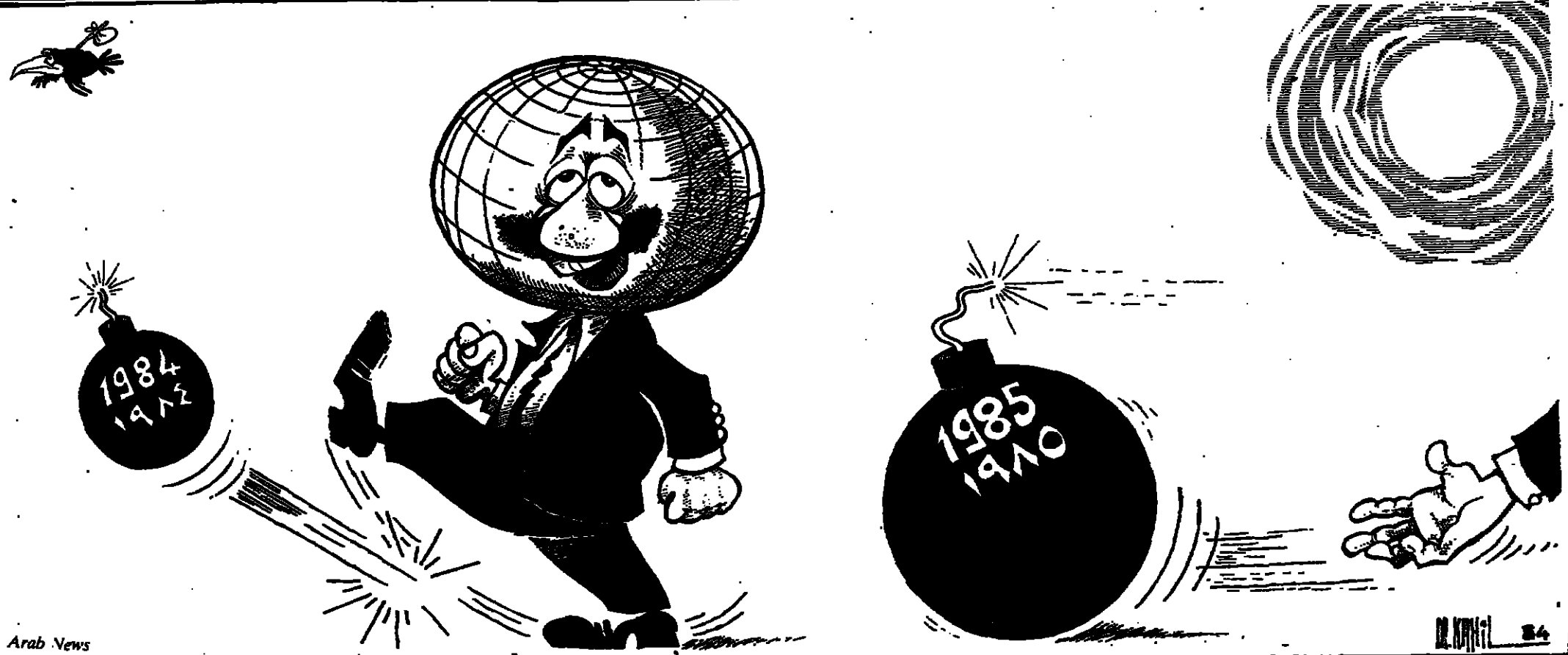
While in Washington, Mr. Mubarak is expected to press for a role for Yasser Arafat's wing of the PLO in future peace talks. Egypt believes a softening of U.S. opposition to the Arafat faction would enhance prospects for establishing a moderate Arab front

willing to enter peace talks with Israel, which refuses to deal with the guerrillas.

Mr. Mubarak will also no doubt push for increases in U.S. aid to Egypt if the administration grants Israel's request for an extra \$1.5 billion in assistance to overcome its economic crisis.

After the 1978 Camp David accords, the administration of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter agreed to keep levels of economic assistance to both countries roughly equal.

Egypt now receives about \$2.2 billion in military and economic assistance. Israel gets \$2.6 billion in military and economic help but is pressing for an additional \$1.5 billion for the coming fiscal year.



Yugoslav-Albanian relations show signs of thaw after 3 year's freeze

By Slobodan Lazarevic
Reuters

BELGRADE — Signs of a thaw have appeared in relations between Yugoslavia and Albania, frozen since riots in the southern Yugoslav province of Kosovo in 1981 in which at least nine ethnic Albanians were killed.

The first move came from Albania on Nov. 27 when Communist leader Enver Hoxha's heir-apparent, Ramiz Alia, said ways could be found to normalise relations despite "irreconcilable ideological and political contradictions" between the Balkan neighbours.

Mr. Alia, president of the Albanian People's Assembly, was making a speech on the 40th anniversary of Albania's World War II liberation from Nazi rule.

"We would like to see existing trade and other relations with Yugoslavia developed and carried further forward. Likewise, we think that the cultural exchanges which have been interrupted could be re-established," Mr. Alia said.

Tirana was open to talks if Belgrade showed readiness and goodwill, he said.

Mr. Alia also made positive remarks about Albanian relations with other countries, particularly Greece, Turkey, Italy and some other Western European and Arab states. Western analysts saw this as an unusual attempt to open isolationist Albania to the outside world.

"Never since the 1981 Kosovo riots have I seen such good tones, particularly towards Yugoslavia," a Belgrade-based Albanian diplomat said.

Two weeks later a Yugoslav Foreign Ministry statement said Albania's readiness to improve bilateral cooperation had been received with interest.

This followed several articles in the Yugoslav press criticising Mr. Alia's speech, which had repeated accusations that Belgrade's policy towards Tirana was "hostile and marked by attempts to liquidate Albania as a state and the Albanians as a nation."

The statement said Yugoslavia wanted to avoid "unacceptable insinuations and attacks" and stressed willingness to develop economic, cultural and other ties.

Stane Dolanc, a member of Yugoslavia's state presidency, said in a later speech that Yug-

oslavia wanted to cooperate with Albania on the basis of mutual respect and non-interference in each other's affairs.

Yugoslavia, Albania's leading trading partner, is aware of recent Albanian moves to improve ties with Greece and Italy and does not want to be left behind if Tirana changes its policies towards the outside world.

Non-Aligned Yugoslavia has made clear that it wants Albania to remain independent of both the Soviet bloc and the West when Mr. Hoxha eventually dies.

Yugoslav-Albanian relations have been uneasy since 1948 when the late President Tito led Yugoslavia out of the Soviet trend. Mr. Hoxha, a Tito pupil who broke with the Kremlin after the death of Soviet leader Josef Stalin, continued Stalinist policies.

Relations between the two Balkan neighbours hit their lowest point after the Kosovo riots. Kosovo, Yugoslavia's poorest region, is inhabited mainly by ethnic Albanians.

Yugoslav leaders accused Albania of fomenting the riots, which it said were aimed at breaking up the multi-national Yugoslav Federation. Albania denied the charges and accused Yugoslavia of terrorising its Albanian population.



Late President Tito

rge and accused Yugoslavia of terrorising its Albanian population.

Cultural links between the two countries were cut after Belgrade accused Tirana of using them to spread anti-Yugoslav propaganda. Economic cooperation and transport links were also hampered.

Suspicion has been a way of life in the Balkans for a long time and it remains to be seen if the recent signs of a thaw in relations between Yugoslavia and Albania lead to lasting changes.

Berkeley radicalism takes power in city hall

By Maura Dolan

BERKELEY, California — Mayor Eugene Newport paused when a reporter asked him if he considered himself a Marxist.

"I'm not quite sure I understand what a Marxist is," said Mr. Newport, his voice trailing. "I mean, I know people who are Marxists."

So, would he label himself a Marxist?

"No."

After a moment of silence, he chuckled.

"Anything else you want to know before the revolution?"

The revolution in Berkeley is taking place at City Hall, where for the first time, leftist radicals, led by Mr. Newport, a self-described socialist, command a majority on the city council. While the rest of the United States was voting in November to send President Ronald Reagan back to the White House, residents here were electing the most leftist city council in Berkeley's history.

The new council, now controlled by members of a coalition called Berkeley Citizens Action, is further to the left than the councils of the mid-1970s, which debated whether the American flag should be salvaged and the B-1 bomber built and quibbled over whether manholes should be called

person-holes.

Since taking office earlier this month, the council has extended city fringe benefits to municipal employees' live-in lovers (homosexual or heterosexual), established binding arbitration in city labour negotiations, placed controls on landlords that in some cases will require a one-year notice for evictions and proposed a moratorium on the opening of fast-food restaurants.

At the same time, the council has unravelled the policies of the liberal Democrats, who controlled the council for 20 years.

Elected at a time when this city of 103,000 is becoming a town of gourmet restaurants and trendy boutiques, the radicals have pledged to prevent affluent young professionals from displacing low-income minorities and to stop commercial development near the campus of the University of California.

Members of the business community are nervous. Deborah Ritchey, president of Berkeley's Chamber of Commerce, said she is trying to look at the bright side.

"It's not the end of the world," she said with a sigh. "You can try to eradicate capitalism in one town but you can't make capitalism go away all together."

The leftist sweep follows a period that many believed marked the end of radicalism in this university town, birthplace of the free speech and anti-war movements of the 1960s. In recent years, the opening of gourmet coffee bean shops attracted more excitement than campus protests.

But Berkeley has remained a strongly liberal community. In June, a plurality of the city's voters lined up behind the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson in the Democratic primary.

Founded in 1974, the Berkeley Citizens Action is a coalition of tenants, students, peace activists, minority groups, homosexuals and the elderly — "the disenfranchised," as one member described its supporters. The organisation is closely aligned with U.S. Representative Ronald V. Dellums, a Democrat, who is considered Berkeley's "dean of the left."

In 1982, voters adopted an initiative supported by the Berkeley Citizens Action that changed the date of municipal elections from April to coincide with general elections in November, a move that was widely credited with paving the way for the abolition of the city.

In November, students and lower-income residents voted in larger numbers, giving the coalition an edge over the more moderate vote of homeowners.

In this year's election, the Berkeley Citizens Action represented itself as the Democratic Party even though the more moderate candidates on a rival slate were also Democrats.

Members of both slates cited the demise of the local daily paper, the Berkeley Gazette, as a factor in the coalition's victory. The Gazette aggressively covered local politics and often editorially endorsed opponents of the Berkeley Citizens Action.

How the BCA will adjust to power is a matter of debate. Some see the organisation, with members in eight of the nine council seats, moving closer to the centre, speculation that Mayor Newport dismisses.

Although realtors, landlords, developers and large corporations are not expected ever to feel comfortable with the coalition, many small and medium-sized businesses in Berkeley were not dismayed by the election results.

"So maybe I'll have to meet a quota and hire an Asian, handicapped, lesbian student who has been to Hanoi," said Tim Boerner, 32, who owns a car dealership and a bar.

"If that's what it's going to be, I'll stay in Berkeley," he said.

Los Angeles

Bad year for Thatcher, worse for opposition

By Harvey Morris
Reuters

LONDON — Commentators looking back on 1984 tend to agree it was a bad year in domestic politics for the British government and a worse one for the opposition.

Despite an unresolved nine-month coal strike, a string of policy slip-ups acknowledged by government leaders as "errors of presentation", and an alarming state of backbench rebellions, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher still surfaced at the top of the opinion polls at year-end.

But detailed analysis of the polls indicated the public was not so much satisfied with Mrs. Thatcher as disillusioned with the opposition, particularly the Labour Party.

One pre-Christmas survey indicated four out of five Britons felt the prime issue facing the country was unemployment, an area in which Mrs. Thatcher and her ministers have gone increasingly on the defensive.

The second biggest concern was industrial unrest, an issue on which Labour appeared to have suffered more heavily than the Conservative government.

Scenes of picket-line violence between strikers and police, coupled with the uncompromising person of miners' leader Arthur Scargill, seemed to have convinced a majority of voters that the strike was a bad thing.

The Labour Party headed towards 1985 in an atmosphere of internecine strife with its left wing attacking leader Neil Kinnock for failing to come out strongly enough in support of the miners.

There was even talk of replacing him with veteran left-winger Tony Benn, a politician who inspires devotion among his supporters but an equally strong hatred among some sections of the electorate and is therefore not an obvious vote-winner.

Mr. Kinnock presided over a form of reconciliation between the rival wings of the party at its annual conference in October. But peace was bought at the price of adopting even more radical socialist policies which, to judge by the opinion polls, have so far failed to capture the support of voters.

The middle-of-the-road alliance parties, the Liberals and the Social Democratic Party (SDP), fared better in terms of popularity but still seemed a long way from replacing Labour as Britain's second political force.

SDP leader David Owen nevertheless felt confident enough to predict in a New Year message that the alliance would hold the balance of power after the next general election, which could be held at any time between now and 1988.

Mr. Thatcher is unlikely to call an early poll. Her ruling Con-



servatives enjoy the biggest parliamentary majority in post-war history — 140.

The size of the majority has been, as predicted by former Foreign Minister Francis Pym before Mrs. Thatcher sacked him, a mixed blessing.

It has allowed backbench members of parliament the luxury of rebelling against government policy without running the risk of bringing the government down.

Revolts were on the increase towards the end of 1984, with even right-wing Conservatives balking at government cuts in housing and education.

Labour members were often content to sit back on their benches and cheer on conservative rebels as they tied the attack against government ministers.

Mrs. Thatcher's personal standing rose as a result of her calm reaction to an Irish guerrilla bomb attack on her and other ministers during a party conference in Brighton in October.

The House of Commons, for once in unanimous agreement, condemned the assassination bid. Labour Home Affairs Spokesman Gerald Kaufman said governments in Britain were only removed through the ballot box.

Government spokesmen declined to acknowledge it had been a poor year for the government.

They pointed to economic recovery, continued low inflation and apparent public acceptance of a policy of selling off state assets as proof of the government's success.

Their reply to critics who say Mrs. Thatcher is not doing enough to combat record unemployment, officially estimated at three-and-a-quarter million, was that it was not directly the government's responsibility.

For a prime minister with little background in foreign affairs, Mrs. Thatcher had a spectacular year abroad. She resolved a budget row with the European Community, initiated a dialogue with the Soviet bloc and ended the year with a whistle-stop trip round the world during which she signed a widely praised accord returning Hong Kong to Chinese rule in 1997.

At Britain's Sandhurst, military leadership is the name of the game

By Richard L. Hudson

CAMBERLEY, England — Young Winston Churchill came here to Sandhurst, Britain's army academy, for his military training. His commander, he recalled, was "a very strict and peppery martinet" from the Welsh Regiment. Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery studied here, too. So did a former king of Spain, the current sultan of Oman and the leaders of at least three recent military coups in Africa.

Other famous military academies, like West Point in the U.S. and France's St. Cyr, pride themselves on the quality of officers they turn out. But the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst — to give its proper name — retains a special, world-wide reputation for producing leaders. It is, writes one graduate, King Hussein, "the finest place for a man to learn to be a king."

Once, Sandhurst was synonymous with the British upper crust. From its founding in 1799, it turned out generations of gentlemen-officers to expand and enforce Britain's colonial might. Today, the Empire is gone, and there is a little less emphasis on the "gentleman" role: less than half the cadets come from exclusive "public" schools like Eton and Harrow, and they haven't been required to wear dinner jackets in the mess hall since the end of World War I.

Foreign attractions

Still, Sandhurst has a unique role. Besides schooling all of Britain's own army officers, it attracts

scores of would-be generals from other nations. There are currently 54 foreigners among the 775 cadets. (By contrast, West Point's 1,400-student enrollment includes only 10 foreigners.) For many "Third World" countries too poor to build their own academies, Sandhurst is their primary officer-finishing school. And even wealthy nations that could afford such institutions are attracted by Sandhurst's reputation.

Jamaica's tiny army, for instance, sends eight cadets a year here. At the other end of the spectrum, Sandhurst offers for many wealthy Arab nations a high-class military grooming they can't buy at home. Two Saudi princes are currently cadets, and even a recent diplomatic flap when one of them was charged in London with drunk driving hasn't diminished Arab enthusiasm. "Although England is no longer the military power it was, its military tradition is respected," says a spokesman at the Saudi embassy in London.

Britain's victory in the 1982 Falklands war with Argentina enhanced Sandhurst's reputation even more. Now, economically buffeted Britons see the military as one of the few national institutions that aren't on strike or on the blink. Applications to Sandhurst have risen by 10 per cent over the last five years. "We're getting the cream," says Lt. Col. Jeremy Phipps, the school's senior staff officer.

Youthful ensigns

By the standards of other great military academies, Sandhurst is something of a newcomer. Before

its founding on the eve of the Napoleonic wars, Britain was the only major European power without a regular officer school. Military commissions were often sold to wealthy but callow young men; historians say 12-year-old ensigns weren't unknown. The purchase system was finally abolished in the 1870s.

Like much else in Britain, Sandhurst can't be accused of being quick to change. Regular exercise wasn't thought necessary in the early days, and didn't enter the curriculum until the 1860s. Horse-riding lessons were mandatory until 1939, and it wasn't until 1932 that the school obtained some trucks in order to teach driving. Today, however, the Hindustani courses once necessary for a career in Britain's India forces have been replaced by classes on chemical warfare, neutron bombs and Soviet tank maneuvers.

Women cadets were admitted in 1981, although they weren't brought onto the main campus until last May. To save money, the 171-year-old school band was retired this summer. And the basic officer-training course has been shortened from its traditional two years to seven grueling months.

Curtailed curriculum

In the course of condensing the curriculum, Sandhurst has sharply curtailed instruction in such non-military areas as current affairs and modern languages. About half of the new cadets already have university degrees anyway, officials say, and the shortened course leaves more time for leadership training and military indoctrination. But critics say it produces officers who know little about the politics and economics that could prevent war.



Young Hussein on the pistol range at Sandhurst

dership training and military indoctrination. But critics say it produces officers who know little about the politics and economics that could prevent war.

West Point, for instance, prides itself on giving cadets a broad, liberal-arts education in its four-year programme. But Sandhurst isn't impressed. "I could produce very liberal officers who couldn't punch their way out of a paper bag," sniffs Michael Slade, the head of the military-technology department. "The goal is to produce someone who is killing men."

Still, Sandhurst officials say they have adapted to the needs of the modern military. Speech instruction, for instance, is now an essential part of an officer's training; in Northern Ireland, where the army has been on active duty for 15 years, television interviews can be almost as daunting as snipers. In one classroom, nine fresh-scrubbed, perfectly pressed cadets take turns reading

nouns from the Battle of Waterloo, a look of hair from the Duke of Wellington's horse, trophies from various battles in India. The campus itself seems fit for future generals and kings. It sports beagle kennels, duck ponds and a cricket pavilion. The Officers' Mess is a private, plush club, all thick pastel carpets and deep leather armchairs. Here, servants dispense gin-and-tonics, ale and bloody marys to the staff before lunch.

Most cadets sleep in private bedrooms, rather than barracks. They tip school servants 50 pence (60 U.S. cents) to shine their boots. School officials say the atmosphere is designed to instill a sense of rank, and not to breed snobbery or imperiousness. Still, experienced cadets sometimes adopt the mantle of command with rather too much vigour. School officials acknowledge as a failure an experiment in which they once brought in real soldiers for the would-be officers to order about. "With 180 officer cadets all having a go at you, you're a pretty dead guinea pig at the end of the day," says Lt. Col. Phipps, the senior staff officer. Now, students practice issuing orders to each other.

Organised chaos

In one recent drill, a muddy woods becomes an organised chaos. Groups of cadets, each directed by a student commander, are clambering over pipes or lugging bulky ammunition boxes. "In the pen! In the pen! Come on, in the pen!" shouts Cadet Christopher Morley. Under his orders, a small band wrestles a 240-

pound log over an obstacle course and towards a small enclosure. The men stumble, sweat and snarl. "In the pen!" Cadet Morley keeps shouting, like a noisy puppy yipping at their heels.

This is a test of his leadership, and he has much to learn. An officer, Sandhurst teaches, rarely shouts; that's for sergeants. An officer orders in a firm, steady tone. He isn't sarcastic. He never curses. Well, hardly ever.

He also is polite. When one group comes running up, laden with ammo boxes, an unthinking visitor is standing in the men's path. The group's mud-splattered leader gasps out, "Excuse me, sir," as he huffs by. Sandhurst "carries almost to extremes the English cult of good manners," writes John Keegan, a military scholar on the school's faculty.

Some other lessons for officers: Use "we" instead of "you" when addressing the troops; it fosters team spirit. Pitch in to work with the platoon at times, but remember that strict discipline "helps men to face the unknown terrors of war." Explain order whenever possible. Be consistent. Be cheerful. Be a churchgoer; religion is a comfort in war. (Chapel attendance is required three times a term.)

Passing muster

If a new cadet's life at Sandhurst isn't Spartan, it is rigorous. Reville is at dawn, with room inspection at 7:20. There must be no rubbish in the bins, no books on the shelves. Posters and radios aren't allowed. Blankets must be folded to a precise 22 inches square.

Fuelwood for Zambian cities

Zambia has more of its people living in cities than almost any other African nation. Supplying them with wood to cook their meals is wiping out forests over large areas.

By Donatus de Silva

LONDON — While the northern industrialised countries enjoy an oil glut and even live in hopes of cheaper oil, Zambia suffers with the basic problem of getting wood and charcoal into its cities so people can cook their meals.

Some 45-50 per cent of the Zambian population lives in cities. This is one of the highest such proportions in Africa, far surpassing nations like Nigeria, where only 20 per cent of the population is urban, or Kenya, with 13 per cent. Rural people, even where trees are in short supply, can still treely gather their own cooking and heating fuels in the form of twigs and straw. Urban people must buy their fuel, even if it is only wood or charcoal.

Many Zambians who cannot get enough fuelwood with which to cook are not getting enough nutrition, according to E.N. Chidumayo, head of Zambia's Department of Natural Resources. Zambia's peculiar situation has led to bickering among government authorities over which fuels the nation actually uses. The National Commission for Development Planning puts fuelwood behind petroleum, electricity and coal, making up only 14.5 per cent of the total energy consumption in 1980.

This figure is hotly contested by Dr. Chidumayo, who points out that wood is by far the nation's most widely used domestic fuel. He warns that underestimating its role

will only delay the search for solutions to the national fuelwood crisis.

Like most other "Third World" city people, Zambian city dwellers depend on the surrounding countryside for supplies of food, water and energy. Lying mostly along the railroad running from the Copperbelt in the northeast southwards through Lusaka to Livingstone, the cities pull wood from the forests and woodlands near rural villages, making rural shortages worse.

Deforestation resulting from fuelwood gathering in the hinterlands around Lusaka is rapidly increasing with population growth. The annual rate of deforestation in the local reserved forests jumped from 353 hectares (872 acres) in 1970 to 1,158 hectares in 1982.

Very little is known about the extent of deforestation outside the reserved forests. But meeting the current demand of Lusaka requires at least 6,030 hectares of woodland per year, and the estimated supply from reserved forests accounts for only 2 per cent of this demand.

As wood supplies recede, the urban poor suffer most. Today the poor city households spend up to 17 per cent of their income on fuelwood alone.

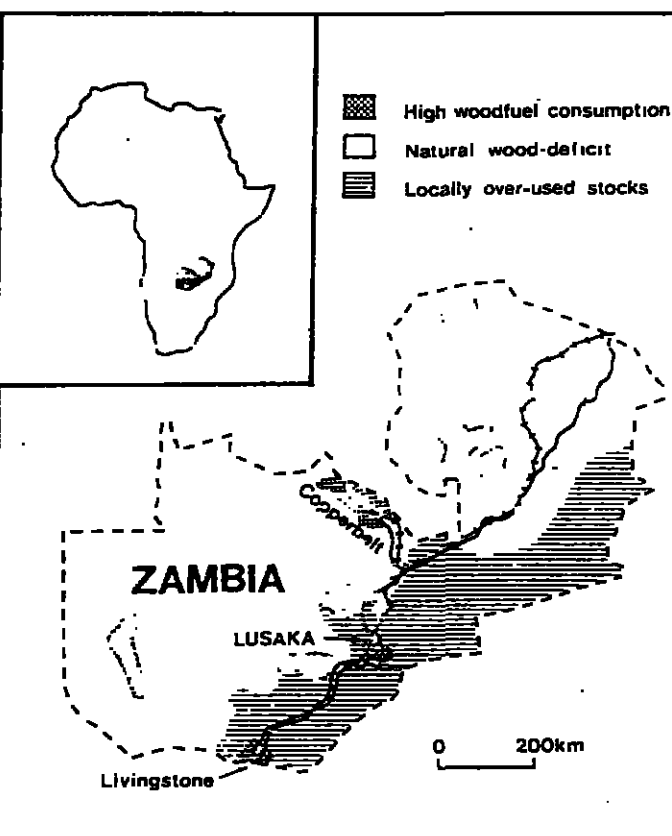
They must compete with the many small industries which burn wood: bakeries, breweries and brickmakers. The tobacco industry is also heavily dependent on fuelwood for curing tobacco.

The voracious urban demand for fuelwood has created a lucrative charcoal industry. There are over 7,000 charcoal-makers in the country, and a recent study found that about 4 per cent of farmers are engaged in part-time production of charcoal. Farmers also earn extra money by selling fuelwood, and there has been no count of those transporting and selling wood on the retail market.

The government attempts to earn revenue from the fuelwood industry by collecting a tree-felling license fee for every large bag of charcoal delivered at the market. But many charcoal producers ignore license requirements. Says Dr. Chidumayo: "Not more than 10 per cent of this revenue is realised."

As urban demand depletes rural areas, women and children must spend more time gathering wood. Around dense settlements and wood-scarce rural areas, people must travel 5-10 kilometres and sometimes as much as 20 kilometres to find firewood, according to a survey sponsored by the Netherlands.

Government authorities have yet to realise the importance of the fuelwood problem. The few reforestation programmes launched so far have run into many problems. Much of the reforestation efforts have been carried out in the Copperbelt, with the replanting of bare areas with species of foreign pines and eucalyptus. But to the amazement of the energy planners, all these plantations were established to provide poles and timber for industry, rather than fuelwood for people.



A Swedish-backed study showed that Eastern Province villagers were in favour of tree-planting, and most preferred communal ownership of plantations in the belief that this would make land and labour easier to find. But people will not readily work on plantations unless requested to do so by the local chief or political leader. Without the early backing of local politicians and traditional rulers, the projects will fail.

But the Swedish study found that tree-planting programmes often fail anyway due to lack of

transport and land and poor plantation management. Also, this sort of village forestry has no place in government agricultural extension programmes, so staff must be trained in this field. There is hope. In 1982 the government launched with World Bank help a Lusaka fuelwood plantation project, the first real attempt to plant trees for fuelwood in the country. Zambia will have to quickly start many more such projects if it is to stop fuelwood from disappearing altogether from the urban market in future — East African feature.

Kenya averts major disaster

Like neighbouring Ethiopia, Kenya is going through one of the worst droughts this century. But unlike some of their neighbours, the Kenyans have planned ahead and put in their bids for imported food long before real famine could strike.

By Patti Waldmeir

NAIROBI — "In Kenya, we have a drought, the worst in 50 years. But we do not have a famine. And we're going to make sure that the drought does not become a famine."

This confidence, expressed by a senior Kenya government official three months ago when parts of the country had seen crops fail three times in succession, would have seemed misplaced in most of the 24 other African countries now threatened by severe drought.

But through a fortuitous combination of heavy and well-distributed rains in October and November, prompt action to import food and the necessary infrastructure to distribute it, Kenya has managed, at least temporarily, to avert a major disaster.

"Kenya understands a competitive situation. The government knew it would be bidding against numerous other countries for international drought relief," says an official of a multilateral donor. "Its response was to prepare sound estimates of food import needs and to make its case to the donor community in time to avoid a crisis."

As early as last June, Kenya told donors it would need to import some 1.3 million tonnes of cereals to keep pace with consumption between mid-1984 and mid-1985. It was prepared to spend some \$200 million, largely on commercial maize and wheat imports.

The rest would have to come from donors.

While numerous other African countries are only now getting relief appeals under way, donor officials say Kenya has commitments for more than two-thirds of total needs, with about half the committed total coming from commercial imports which are estimated to have cost the country between \$80 million and \$120 million so far.

Officials of multilateral and private donor agencies say there is little doubt that the government's policy of selling relief food through normal commercial channels, or distributing it as part of "Food for Work" programmes, has averted the threat of serious famine for most Kenyans.

But distribution to sparsely populated remote areas of the north-east and to the semi-arid Eastern Province has gone less smoothly. The private aid agencies responsible for distributing food in these areas complain of insufficient allocations of grain, and say the government had discriminated against the pastoralist populations of urban centres and of the Rift Valley and Central Province.

According to a survey taken by one small private charity in the depressed Kiambu area, 200 kilometres south-east of Nairobi, two-thirds of the population was unable to either pay or work for food.

And in the arid pastureslands

of the north-east, where livestock losses have topped 50 per cent in some areas and young female animals are not expected to begin producing milk until next April at the earliest, famine deaths are still a possibility as the pastoralists' traditional diet of milk, meat and blood is seriously disrupted.

With the market for livestock seriously depressed by increased slaughtering, pastoralists are unable to raise funds to purchase relief food through normal commercial channels.

While officials of the largest bilateral and multilateral donors are confident in affirming that no famine situation now exists in most of Kenya, they are quick to point out that the country is not yet out of the woods.

Despite a good short-rains season in October and November, which will give the parched Eastern Province its first harvest in 12 to 18 months, total 1984 maize production is still estimated at between 1.2 million and 1.5 million tonnes, well down on the previous year's 2.5 million tonnes.

The short-rains harvest, which normally represents only 20 per cent of total annual crop, will ease supplies in January and February next year. But the food situation from mid-1985 will inevitably depend heavily on the long-rains season of next April and May — rains which failed completely in most of the country this year.

The rest of the balance of payments gap will have to come primarily from donor governments, at a time when pressure on them to avert immediate drought-related disasters in other parts of Africa will already be intense — Financial Times news feature.

SCANDINAVIAN SHOWROOM

Living rooms
Dining rooms
Bedroom sets
Wall units
Lighting fixtures
Club for children
Modern Danish design
Feather upholstery
Danish-Pack Homes
Tax-free if applicable

The youthful style with an eye to the future

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Tottenham, Everton stay on course

LONDON (R) — Tottenham and Everton began the New Year Tuesday as they had ended the old-fashioned together at the top of English soccer's first division.

Both clubs have 46 points from 23 games, but Tottenham, 2-1 winners over North London rivals Arsenal Tuesday morning, have pride of place at the top through their superior goal difference.

Everton kept snapping at Tottenham's heels by beating Luton, one of the division's strugglers, 2-1 at home. The Merseyside club appeared on their way to a comfortable win when Trevor Steven scored in the 11th and 70th minutes, but they were forced to endure some anxious moments after Mick Harford pulled back a goal 10 minutes from time.

Third-placed Manchester United, surprisingly lost ground when they were beaten for the first time at home this season — 2-1 by Sheffield Wednesday for whom Iain Vaneek collected his 13th and 14th goals of the season, his second coming five minutes from time. Welsh international Mark Hughes scored United's goal.

They are on 41 points, two more than fourth-placed Arsenal have now, but championship hopes have not faded in the past few weeks.

Arsenal manager Don Howe issued a scathing attack on his team following Tuesday's defeat.

"After a rubbish performance like that you would think the players would go away and think about the problems and come in tomorrow determined to put them right," he said. "But my bet is not will go home and think I missed out on New Year's Eve so I am going to make up for it tonight."

England striker Tony Woodcock gave Arsenal a 42nd minute lead but second half goals by Garth Crooks and Mark Falco turned the tide in Tottenham's favour.

Defending champions Liverpool were saved from another beating by a late goal at Watford.

by Ian Rush, whose torrent of goals was a major factor in the club's success last season. He scored in the 88th minute to cancel out a first-half penalty by Luther Blissett.

Peter Beardsley fluffed a penalty but still managed to complete a hat-trick as Newcastle, one of the season's early pacemakers, romped to a 3-1 win over local rivals Sunderland. He learned from his penalty miss to score his second goal from the spot.

Sunderland finished the match with only nine men after Howard Gayle was sent off in the 48th minute and Gary Bennett was dismissed three minutes before the end.

In a bizarre game at Upton Park three players, including Queen's Park Rangers goalkeeper Peter Hucker, were carried off injured in the opening 22 minutes.

Hucker went off in the fifth minute after West Ham's Paul Brush had scored his first goal in 165 first team appearances.

But he returned a few minutes later to help Rangers to a 3-1 win thanks to second-half goals by John Byrne, Gary Bannister and Gary Waddock.

In Scotland, Celtic closed the gap between the selves and leaders Aberdeen, who were without a game Tuesday, to two points by beating Glasgow rivals, Rangers, 2-1 away.

Rangers dominated the first half after Celtic's Maurice Johnston had missed an 18th-minute penalty — his second failure from the spot in four days — and Davie Cooper put them ahead in the 33rd minute.

But Celtic landed a double blow early in the second half. Johnston headed an equaliser seconds after the restart and Brian McClair hit the winner nine minutes later.



BOXING TALKS START: The meeting of the general assembly of the Arab Amateur Boxing Federation started Tuesday at the assembly hall at the Al Hussein Youth City. The session was opened by Minister of Youth Hani Hashawneh. In his opening speech, the minister expressed Jordan's readiness to host any Arab sports tournament or meetings. Taking part in the three-day meeting are delegates from Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Tunisia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait and Jordan. During the meetings conferees will discuss holding the Arab Boxing Championship in Syria in April and reconsidering the issue of forming the federation's sub-committees.

Cairo's National returns to tumultuous welcome with cup

CAIRO (R) — The Cairo soccer club National returned home Tuesday with Africa's Cup Winners' Cup to a tumultuous welcome by some 8,000 fans who camped out on New Year's Eve to greet them.

Eyewitnesses said the fans began gathering around the airport area in the desert east of Cairo eight hours before National's players arrived at three a.m. (0100 GMT) from Cameroon.

National clinched the title on Sunday when they beat Canon Yaounde 4-2 in a penalty shoot-out after a 1-1 aggregate score.

A four-kilometre (2.5-mile) queue of vehicles built up on the road leading from the airport to the city centre. Many fans danced and sang as they waited for their red-shirted idols to show up with the cup.

National's compatriots and arch-rivals Zamalek won the more prestigious African Champions' Cup last Dec. 8 when they beat Nigeria's Shooting Stars 1-0 in Lagos for a 3-0 aggregate victory.

While Egyptian fans were clearly entitled to jubilation over the double triumph of the two clubs, Egyptian soccer officials refuse to be complacent.

It has been 50 years since Egypt last made it to the World Cup finals and the man with the country's top soccer job believes the long-time dream of a World Cup berth will come true for the next finals in Mexico next year.

Egypt's manager Abdou Saleh Al-Walsh told Reuters Tuesday that never before had the chances of a slot in a World Cup finals looked better for Egypt.

"My team has been the same for

the past two years with an average age of 24 years. Everyone is getting better," he said.

Egypt take on Madagascar in Cairo on April 5 in their next World Cup qualifying tie. They have already beaten Zimbabwe.

Walsh, who took over the Egyptian team two years ago, said the active role of the country's club sides in the African arena was helping him prepare the national side. "It is the only thing that brings out their best," he said.

He said his national side will begin a 12-day tour of Africa on January 30 for five matches with the Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Ghana. Negotiations are also under way to bring the Yugoslav national team to play in Cairo on January 25.

The 1984 double triumph of Egyptian clubs was the second in two years. In 1982, National won the Champions' Cup and compatriots Arab Contractors the Cup Winners' Cup.

Contractors retained the title the following year but National were edged out 0-1 by Ghana's Ashanti Kotoko in the final of the Champions' Cup.

Walsh, however, had harsh words for the home league, saying that apart from three or four matches a season, players did not bring out their best.

"Except for two sides, the rest of the clubs in the 12-team first division are just fighting against relegation. Ideally, 10 teams should battle for the title," he said.

West Indies in danger of defeat

SYDNEY (R) — Australian leg spinner Bob Holland snapped up six for 54 to put Clive Lloyd's irresistible West Indies in danger of a rare defeat in the fifth and final cricket test here Tuesday.

Holland, in only his third test and at the age of 38, exploited a wearing pitch as West Indies crumbled to 163 all out and, forced to follow on 308 behind, were 31 for one at the close of the third day.

West Indies, unbeaten in their previous 27 tests and with a winning 3-0 lead in the series, face an immense task during the remaining two days to try and avoid losing for the second time on the tour at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The touring team's previous setback was against New South Wales by 71 runs here last November when, significantly, Holland played a major role with a seven-wicket match haul.

Holland said the New South Wales players in Australia's test side were influential in advising captain Allan Border to bat on

winning the toss here. "We told Allan the team batting first would get the highest score," he said.

Holland described his performance as "a fairy story come true" and added: "Also I'm sure that young leg spinners everywhere will keep trying instead of turning, as many do, to medium pace when they don't get an opportunity to bowl their spin."

Australia's most telling out-crickets of the series followed their first innings declaration at 471 for nine after scoring a further 37 and losing three wickets in the first session.

Fast bowler Craig McDermott, in only his second test, made the inroads before lunch by firing out Gordon Greenidge and Richie Richardson cheaply.

Opener Greenidge sparred at a ball outside off stump and was caught behind, while Richardson was beaten by the sheer speed of a delivery that knocked over his off stump.

West Indies were 43 for two at lunch, and Holland broke the back of the innings in the second session

with a spell of three for 28 in 13 overs. He accounted for Desmond Haynes, top scorer on 34, Larry Gomes and Viv Richards.

Lloyd, in his last test appearance, and wicketkeeper batsman Jeff Dujon checked the slide with a sixth wicket stand of 54 before Holland and left arm spinner Murray Bennett stunningly polished off the rest of the innings.

The dismissal of Lloyd for 33, caught at short leg by Graeme Wood of an inside edge, triggered a collapse in which the last five wickets fell while three runs were scored.

Border became the first test captain to force West Indies to follow on since India did so in the New Delhi test of the 1978-79 series.

Lloyd's team suffered a further setback when McDermott had Haynes leg before for three with the total on seven, and at the close they needed a further 277 to avoid an innings defeat with nine wickets left.

Olympics leave controversy over too much profit

LOS ANGELES (R) — The Los Angeles Olympic Games have left a controversial legacy: Too much money.

The first to be financed by big business, they have already made a profit of at least \$215 million, and general manager Harry Usher says this could reach \$250 million.

Games officials have offered to repay \$6.8 million charged to foreign teams for accommodation and other facilities.

Montreal, which ran up debts of one billion dollars staging the 1976 Olympic Games, might envy the profit.

Only weeks before the games opened in July, the President of the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee, Peter Ueberroth, said he expected to have just a few dollars left over.

Foreign Olympic officials, some of the 50,000 volunteers who worked for no pay during the games, and police and other city departments are complaining they were misled by the committee and that the games were too Spartan.

The officials say they would have not allowed their athletes to share university dorms or to ride in ancient, hard-sprung school buses if they had known how much the games would cost.

Police who worked long hours protecting the games said it could not afford to buy officers' hot dinners. The volunteers say they agreed to work long hours for free partly because they accepted the committee's contention that it was short of cash.

The chairman of the games, Paul Zeffren, is unabashed. "We make no apologies for generating about \$200 million for sport for kids," he told reporters.

Under the charter of the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee, 40 per cent of the surplus goes to the U.S. Olympic Committee, 40 per cent to youth sports in Southern California and 20 per cent to the governing bodies of U.S. sports federations.

Usher said the surplus came partly from a last-minute rush for tickets and because the ABC television network did not request a rebate on its payment of \$225 million for broadcasting rights when it learned that the Soviet Union and other nations would not compete in the games.

An emergency fund for contingencies such as a guerrilla attack was not needed. "We were very, very lucky," Usher said.

A big financial success of the games has been 16-year-old Mary Lou Retton, a gymnast whose homely good looks are now on boxes of a breakfast cereal. She

has also signed advertising contracts with a hair stylist and a hamburger chain.

Apparently left behind in the rush for contracts was Carl Lewis, who won four gold medals. He told reporters last month he had signed one endorsement agreement with a Japanese beverage company.

Another Olympic success was Ueberroth himself, who gave up running a travel agency to run the games. He has become commissioner of major league baseball, one of the most high-powered positions in American sport.

His efforts have had a lasting effect on Los Angeles, which agreed to run the games when few others wanted them.

A professional football team, the Raiders, are once again playing in the Coliseum, an old stadium given a brand new look for the Olympic athletics events.

Los Angeles has also received a new swimming pool, a velodrome and a hockey stadium as working legacies of the games.

Olympic chief named Time's Man of the Year

NEW YORK (R) — Peter Ueberroth, chief organizer of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games, was named 'Man of the Year' Sunday by Time Magazine.

Ueberroth, 47, now commissioner of organized baseball in the United States, was cited for masterminding "a triumph that involved four-fifths of the nations of the globe."

"Despite the Soviet boycott, the games became one of the greatest athletic spectacles in history," the magazine said.

Noting that previous games had

lost money, Time added: "This year, for the first time, the games received at least no government funds and ended up with an unimagined surplus of \$215 million — and the sum could reach \$250 million by June."

Other nominees for the accolade included President Reagan, President Jose Napoleon Duarte of El Salvador and Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice-presidential contender.

Last year's designation went to Reagan and Soviet leader Yuri Andropov.

E. German wins ski jumping 2nd leg

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, West Germany (AP) — Olympic Champion Jens Weissflog of East Germany soared 98 and 102.5 metres Tuesday to win the second leg of the traditional four-hill international ski jumping tour here.

Weissflog, 20, who set a new hill record of 108 metres to win the event last year, gathered 210.1 points while Finland's Jani Puikkonen scored 197.9 with jumps

of 96.5 and 98.5 metres to place second.

East Germany's world ski flying champion Klaus Ostwald finished third with 99 and 94 metres and 196.6 points before some 15,000 spectators.

Puikkonen's performance

novel hit up a notch in World Cup standings to second place behind Austrian Andreas Felder, who remained on top despite his 11th-place finish Tuesday.

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Lopes wins Sao Paulo race

SAO PAULO (R) — Olympic marathon champion Carlos Lopes of Portugal won the New Year's Eve round-the-houses through the streets of Sao Paulo Monday night.

The 37-year-old Los Angeles Olympic gold medalist covered the 12.6 km course in 34 minutes 43.79 seconds, finishing comfortably ahead of Brazil's Jose Joao da Silva in second place and Marcos Barrero Hernandez of Mexico in third.

Portugal's Rosa Moia won the women's race for the fourth year in succession to make it a double night of celebration for Sao Paulo's big Portuguese community.

For Lopes success in Monday night's race completed a golden 12 months. He told reporters: "1984 was definitely my best year."

Lopes, who last won South America's oldest and most prestigious road race in 1982, said he trained hard for the race and was not surprised at winning.

Paris-Dakar Rally begins

PARIS (R) — Princess Caroline of Monaco and her husband-Sierphano Casiraghi were among hundreds of competitors who left the Chateau de Versailles Tuesday at the start of the gruelling Paris-Dakar Rally.

In 22 days they hope to cover 14,000 km (8,750 miles) across desert and rough terrain to the Senegalese capital in a specially designed 16-tonne truck. It has a top speed of 150 kph (95 mph) and a cabin that can be pressurised to protect its occupants from heat

and dust.

In 1982, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's son Mark went missing for six days and in the last three rallies six people have died, two spectators and four competitors.

A record 350 cars, 150 motorbikes and 50 trucks set off in the early morning cold Tuesday, heading first for Algeria and the Sahara Desert and then trekking through Niger, Mali and Mauritania to Senegal.

INVITATION TO BID BY THE WATER AUTHORITY OF JORDAN

The Water Authority is soliciting bids from qualified firms in connection with the supply of equipment for water related activities. The list of equipment to be procured includes:

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- (C) Water Well Screens.
- (D) Tri-Cone Drilling Bits.
- (E) Drilling Tools - Accessories.
- (F) Water Level Recorders and Well-Water Instrumentation.
- (G) Pickup Truck Campers.

A copy of the invitation for bid No. WAJ 003/USAID can be obtained after December 26, 1984 from the Water Authority, P.O. Box 2412, Amman, Jordan and/or from Ron Henrikson, Agency for International Development, NE/PD/ENGR, Room 4440 NS, Washington, DC 20523.

Bids will be accepted from U.S. and Jordanian firms. The source and origin of the equipment must be U.S. Payment will be made in U.S. dollars and financed under USAID Project Number 278-0243. Bid opening by the WAJ in Amman, Jordan is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. local time, February 18, 1985.

Please feel free to contact us for any additional information regarding procurement of equipment under IFB 003.

The cost of the tender document is JD 100 per set, non-refundable.

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(For more information, please contact the library of the centre).

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Netherlands Consulate General in Amman, P.O. Box 312, invites all those temporarily or permanently in Jordan with Netherlands nationality to register with the Consulate General in order to keep the administration up-to-date.

The Netherlands Ambassador plans to invite all those who will have registered for a Netherlands reception in his hotel when he will be in Amman by the end of March 1985.

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Lagos to boost spending by 13%

LAGOS (R) — Nigerian leader Major-General Muhammad Buhari Tuesday presented a 1985 budget providing for a 13 per cent rise in government spending and a sharp increase in the amount to be spent on repaying the country's debts.

In a nationwide broadcast a year after taking power in a coup, Major-General Buhari said Nigerians still faced inflation, unemployment and shortages. "But the total picture is that we have seized the initiative and are on the road to recovery," he said.

Government spending was put at 11.27 billion naira (\$14 billion) which compared with the 10 billion naira (\$12.5 billion) spending ceiling announced in the military's tough 1984 budget presented last May.

But Major-General Buhari said Nigeria would not spend more foreign currency than it earned, pegging the foreign exchange budget at the 1984 level of eight billion naira (\$10 billion), slightly below projected foreign exchange earnings.

Income from oil, the main source of foreign exchange, was projected at 7.45 billion naira (\$9.3 billion), or 4.5 per cent below forecast 1984 earnings.

Nigeria cut oil prices in October in order to hold on to its customers.

Major-General Buhari said that in 1984, the government had honoured all payments on medium

and long term debt and progress had been made in refinancing outstanding arrears on short term trade debt. This policy would continue, he added.

Nigeria's foreign debt position was, however, critical, he said, with the country committed to external loans totalling 19 billion naira (\$23.8 billion).

Debt servicing would cost about 3.5 billion naira (\$4.4 billion) in 1985, or about 44 per cent of projected foreign exchange earnings compared with 25 per cent last year, he said.

In order to stop the debt position deteriorating, there would be no foreign borrowing in 1985 to finance new projects and only current projects covered by foreign loans already signed would go ahead.

The budget set government revenues at 11.24 billion naira (\$14 billion), virtually unchanged from last year, but Major-General Buhari said that with oil accounting for two thirds of the total, estimates were unpredictable.

But after revenues had been shared with the state and local governments, federal government revenue would come out at 6.77 billion naira (\$8.5 billion), about the same as in 1984.

The increased 1985 spending would, according to Major-General Buhari's figures, push up the federal budget deficit to about 4.5 billion naira (\$5.6 billion) from 1984's projected 3.3 billion

naira (\$4.1 billion) shortfall.

Extra spending next year was needed to soften the impact of Nigeria's economic recession and to bring down the spiralling costs of delayed capital projects, he said.

Major-General Buhari said foreign exchange would be made accessible to importers by allowing banks to draw from a common pool. Priority would be given to imports of raw materials, machinery and spare parts.

Customs duty would be payable in advance, instead of after goods had arrived; while the import of foreign exchange would be encouraged by allowing Nigerians to open foreign currency bank accounts here.

Levies would be imposed for journeys outside Africa and on people wanting to reactivate dormant companies. Credit to the farm sector would be increased, while a policy of limiting price rises while keeping wages frozen would stay.

Reviewing performance in 1984, Major-General Buhari said the current account of the balance of payments, which covers trade in goods and services, swung into a surplus of 126 million naira (\$158 million) after a deficit in 1983 of 3.4 billion naira (\$4.3 billion).

The trade balance moved into a surplus of 300 million naira (\$375 million) after a shortfall of 2.6 million naira (\$3.3 billion) in 1983.

Indian stock market booms to record level

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian share prices shot up to record levels Tuesday in unprecedented heavy trading set off by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's landslide general election win.

When the New Delhi stock exchange reopened for the first time since the poll result was announced, there was a deafening roar as brokers competed for orders.

Mr. S.C. Shorewala, a senior broker, told Reuters prices rose by an average of 15 per cent as investor's confidence zoomed on the expectation of a liberalised economy under Mr. Gandhi, 40, India's youngest leader.

The prime minister said in his election manifesto he was determined to cut red tape and turn India into a technological giant. About 150 workers were on the stock exchange floor, double the usual number, while the gallery above the floor was packed with members of the public frantically gesturing to their brokers.

"I have never seen such a large jump in prices within such a brief period. The turnout of a large number of traders is also significant," Mr. Shorewala said.

"It is an unprecedented boom and I think it will stay," he said. The share price rise was across the board, but investors mostly favoured industries which are modernising with foreign collaboration.

DCM-Toyota, a car company with Japanese investment started several months ago, rose 2.5 rupees (20 cents) to 18 rupees (\$1.5).

Brokers said share turnover in Delhi was at least 25 per cent higher than on an average day.

Mr. Gandhi's decision to sack the country's experienced finance minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee in announcing his first cabinet Monday did not disrupt the bullish trend.

Brokers judged that Mr. Mukherjee's replacement Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh, a close Gandhi aide and former commerce minister, would keep the Indian economy on its steady course of 5.5 per cent annual growth rate and high credit rating in foreign capital markets.

"Singh did an excellent job as commerce minister. He liberalised imports and exports and had an image of a clean and dynamic minister," said Mr. Yashwant Shah, a broker in Bombay.

Industries will thrive in '85, Washington says

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. economy will grow somewhat less in 1985 but most industries will increase output and earn higher profits, the Commerce Department said Monday in its annual report on the industrial outlook.

Real growth will slow to about 4.3 per cent in 1985 from 6.7 per cent in 1984. The department forecast that 85 per cent of 209 manufacturing industries it studied would have a profitable year in 1985 led by high-technology producers.

A boom year was forecast for aerospace manufacturers in 1985 buoyed by higher defence spending. Primary metal producers may also do better than average, it added.

Most of some 150 service industries, which now account for about two-thirds of total U.S. economic output, will expand in 1985 and they will continue to provide the majority of the economy's new jobs, the department said.

Seventeen of the 20 industries with the largest employment gains in the last three years were in the services sector, the department said. The shift of the economy to services, which account for nearly 75 per cent of total U.S. employment, is expected to continue through the end of the decade.

Primary metal producers, including steel and aluminium manufacturers, can expect growth of 10 per cent or more in 1985, the department said. This reflects a delayed pickup as the sector was slow to bounce back from the 1981-82 recession.

U.S. car manufacturers, some of which faced serious financial trouble a few years ago, appear set for strong profit growth for the third consecutive year, even if import restrictions on Japanese imports are lifted, it added.

A voluntary pact limiting Japanese car exports to the U.S. to 1.85 million a year expires in March. Assuming it is terminated or liberalised and U.S. interest rates do not rise appreciably passenger cars sales will climb by about 500,000 to 11 million in 1985.

Oil traders await U.K. decision

LONDON (R) — Britain's state-owned oil company, viewed by traders as the next key player in the volatile world oil picture, is unlikely to make a decision for at least several days on whether to lower its prices. Sources close to the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC), which markets half of Britain's North Sea oil output, said Monday BNOC was unaware of any informal agreement with major OPEC producers to delay a decision on fixing its new prices. But they also indicated that no pricing decision was likely in the next few days.

BNOC has been losing money because it is buying oil from companies at the official price and having to sell it up to \$2 a barrel cheaper on the spot market. Reports of a pact to delay a British price move for one month came from Gulf sources at the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) conference in Geneva at the weekend.

Report blames Israeli crisis on government, central bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel's state comptroller harshly criticised the government and the Bank of Israel Monday over the collapse 1983 of commercial bank shares in which thousands of small investors lost their savings.

A long-awaited report by state comptroller Mr. Yitzhak Tunkin blamed the government and the central bank for ignoring the dangers of allowing commercial banks to manipulate artificially their shares on the Tel Aviv stock exchange.

By buying and selling their own shares, the banks inflated their paper value to as much as treble the real worth of their assets, creating what most Israelis considered a guaranteed investment.

An impending 25 per cent devaluation of the Israeli shekel in October 1983 caused hundreds of thousands of small investors to sell off their bank shares and purchase foreign currency.

The banks could not continue to prop up the shares, forcing the government to close the stock market for three weeks after the shares dropped and investors lost substantial sums.

Even before the report was made public, politicians demanded the establishment of an inquiry with power to punish those responsible for the crisis, including then finance minister Yoram Aridor and Bank of Israel governor Mr. Moshe Mandelbaum.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has appointed a three-member committee to "coordinate future action by the government and Knesset (parliament) on the com-

ptroller's report," his office said Monday night.

Committee members are Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, Energy Minister Moshe Shachal and Knesset member Mr. David Libai.

The report found that successive Bank of Israel governors "were not alive to the dangers... and even when the writing was on the wall, did not have the courage to take the determined action required by the situation."

It added: "Even when the snail began threatening the stability of the banks, capital market and the whole economy, the finance ministry was deterred from taking firm steps to defuse... what it recognised as a 'time bomb'."

The government was able to calm the public only by promising to buy bank shares from investors at an inflated price from 1985 onwards, creating what the report described as a "\$6.9 billion increase on the state's debt burden with a direct loss to the treasury of \$2.5 billion."

Spokesmen for the commercial banks declined to comment on the report. But business sources said

the document would damage the banks' international reputations and further erode confidence among Israel's foreign creditors.

The economy, in a struggle to overcome 800 per cent annual inflation, has become almost totally dependent on U.S. aid and short-term loans from commercial banks abroad to service the world's highest per capita foreign debt of \$24 billion.

The report said each of the bodies it had investigated tried to blame others for what it called "the blunder."

"The finance ministry blamed the Bank of Israel, the Bank of Israel blamed the finance ministry," it said.

The report was submitted to a parliamentary committee for further action.

"There will be a commission of inquiry to find those guilty for the tragedy that befell half a million salary earners and the national economy," said Labour parliamentarian Mr. Chaim Ramon. Deputy Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz urged Mr. Peres to call an emergency cabinet meeting Monday night to discuss the report.

"The report is so harsh that I could not have imagined its gravity and it has serious implications for the financial and monetary system of Israel," he said.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JAN. 2, 1985

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day is good for taking practical plans for a greater amount of success to those of influence who are able to aid you in gaining more prosperity.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Early plan expansion in business and gain greater success, but later avoid one who may try to con you in some way.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Contact those individuals during the daytime who can best assist you to advance in personal affairs.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you get together with an expert, you can make those arrangements to gain your private aims. Be happy and content.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Contact friends who can assist you to gain personal aims during daytime. Steer clear of one who could depress you.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Plan how to increase success in the outside world and then get wheels rolling in the right direction, take inventory of accomplishments.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) New conditions can be helpful if you take the right steps, but avoid an older person in the evening who wants to come into your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) The day hours are best for financial affairs and collecting money owed to you, but avoid the practical tonight. Be generous.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Partners are willing to have serious talks now, so come to a better understanding with them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Solve problems connected with your work on this second day of the year and you can achieve much.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study the amusements that will most please you and your mate and plan to enjoy them in the new year.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get the situation at home in better shape and be more than tactful tonight. Plan just how to reach your aims in the near future.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Contact people in all walks of life who can be of assistance to you in some way. Be very careful on the road this evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will early want to study the best ways to get ahead in practical and worldly ways and will take the courses that are most helpful. Teach to listen carefully to others and to assist them in gaining their wishes and build up good will. Much success is possible early in life.

Money: Japan's new export

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese are busily adding another product to their long list of successful exports — money, billions of dollars of it.

A wave of Japanese cash is moving through the banking halls of Frankfurt, London, New York and Zurich, making 1984 a record-breaking year for Tokyo bankers.

The city's Marunouchi banking district saw the biggest yen loan ever last year when the Canadian government arranged a borrowing of 120 billion yen (\$490 million) in July.

Only a few days before, Australia and New Zealand borrowed 100 billion yen (\$408 million) each and in November New Zealand was back for another \$100 billion.

Economists at the Nomura Research Institute think Japan will have invested a record \$44 billion abroad last year, more than double in 1983 of \$18 billion. They think the figure will rise to between \$46 and \$50 billion this year.

Why are the Japanese sending abroad money they could spend at home?

Medical breakthroughs are helping Japan's population to live longer and more people than ever before are increasing the money they stash away on investments to cope with approaching old age.

The Japanese are now saving some 18 per cent of their income, compared with the average American's six per cent, and the life insurance firms and pension funds are moving it abroad.

Hundreds of firms are sending money away to build factories overseas, and placate countries threatening to stop Japanese exp-

orts at the docks unless the Japanese make their products where they are sold.

Also Japanese banks are moving abroad because no one wants their money at home.

The huge loans the banks lent to Japanese companies 10 to 20 years ago to build steelworks, shipyards, car plants and robot factories are all being repaid. And hardly anyone needs that amount of money now because Japan is turning to small high-technology industries for growth.

So much money is sloshing about in the Japanese money market that the country's interest rates reward savers with a mere six or seven per cent return.

And all these forces have emerged at a time when American investments offer a far better incentive to savers, despite recent falls in interest rates there.

"The Japanese are investing huge amounts of money in U.S. government treasury bills and dollar-based stocks because there is a five per cent difference they enjoy between U.S. and Japanese interest rates," Mr. Takashi Kamijio, a leading merchant banker with Sumitomo Bank, told Reuters.

Bankers expect another record to fall when the finance ministry

announces Japan's latest monthly overseas investment in foreign securities this month. They appear to have bought more than \$4 billion worth in November alone, more than October's record \$3.6 billion.

Mr. Katsuya Takanashi, a manager at Nomura Securities told Reuters: "Japanese investors are now very important, perhaps the most important group of investors in international markets."

This flood of money has helped Japan's banks become a major force in the world financial scene. There are some 70 alone with branch offices in London, all competing to lend their money.

Yet at home in the past they have lent precious little to the average man in the street.

Until recently there were plenty of Japanese companies setting out on the export road who wanted what money there was available in Japan.

Mr. Noburo Makino, now chairman of the Mitsubishi Research Institute, recalls the days of his youth when he had to go with scrapping bows, begging bank managers for a loan.

But now the tables are turning and Japan's banks are having to scramble into the business of lending money to smaller customers.

Arab fund lends Syria \$35m

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development Monday gave Syria an 11.57 million Kuwaiti dinar (about \$35.3 million) loan to help finance work on a Syrian power station. The Kuwaiti news agency said the loan, at six per cent interest, would be repayable over 14 years. It has a grace period of four years. It said the total cost of the power station project was 71.7 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$218.6 million). Part of the costs would be financed by the Saudi Development Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and the European Investment Bank, it added.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"I think you'll like my new perfume. It's called 'Evening In Delicatessen.'"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

THAPC
VILIC
UPCHIC
GAUHTT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ERUPT FLOOR DELUXE GEYSER
Answer: At the seashore, your composure is often distracted by this—EXPOSURE

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

THE Daily Crossword by Fred Toole

ACROSS

- Dugout
- Former crooner
- Small sailboat
- Glance
- Constant melody
- Austin's state
- The — State (Kentucky)
- Watchful
- Before Sun.
- Map abbr.
- Tot
- Tiny
- Minuteman's foe
- Assemble
- Tree
- Message
- Medieval "mighty"
- King of the Huns
- Central European
- Barbecue bar
- River into the Danube
- Flooring piece
- Whine
- Solar disc
- Blunder
- Author Waugh
- Communications co.
- Depends on
- Traffic stopper
- Native suet.
- Small fish
- Ziegfeld
- 52
- Intake
- World's largest island
- Far. port
- Intend
- False god
- Cherries: suet.
- Wading bird
- Refute

DOWN

- Vestments
- Gaucho's weapon
- Defiant
- DDE
- Trade
- "Diss —"
- Serbian city
- Petrol
- National park
- Hatchlet
- Strife
- WWII craft
- Powder base
- Glasgow
- Profess
- "The — of Dover"
- Fall back
- Glasgow
- In poor health
- "Rose of —"
- Cuts
- One of the Three Kings of Cologne
- Glass bulb
- Followed
- Letter
- NCO
- Buffalo
- Western state
- Brainstorm
- Apprehension
- Put on freight
- In a lazy way
- Windy City: abbr.
- Owns
- Small weights: abbr.
- Antique auto
- Cover

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

APER ABASH THAT
SAGA TROOP WISE
HIGHSIDE BODIES
ERS PLEEN BOOBS
TARY AIGRA
ATRENS SUEZ NIL
CAIN TODAY ONA
HIGH CHAIR DDAY
ETH CHERT WERNE
SEA ALINS LAWVER
HAPPE PAIRS
SIDES ATIN AWE
LALO RICHARDER
EGGS OVINE EZRA
WOWS TENDR TIEM

Reagan looks set to push ahead with 'Star Wars' programme

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration looks set to push ahead with its so-called "Star Wars" missile defence research programme against strong opposition from Moscow and domestic critics and doubts among the allies.

President Reagan sees the \$26 billion programme, officially known as the strategic defence initiative, as one day making nuclear missiles "impotent and obsolete."

With the exception of Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, few of Mr. Reagan's top advisers make such a claim. Critics say the plan could mean immensely costly competition between the superpowers that would lead to less, not more security.

Anxiety over Star Wars and the U.S. development of a missile, known as ASAT, to knock out satellites has been the lure bringing Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Geneva next week for talks with Secretary of State George Shultz.

But U.S. officials are making clear the administration does not intend to trade away these programmes despite Mr. Reagan's promises in a speech at the U.N. last September to consider unspecified restraint while talks proceeded.

National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, who is coordinating the U.S. negotiating positions, has indicated the adm-

istration envisages a combination of offensive missiles at a lower level than at present, with missile defence.

Officials say the Soviet Union has already accepted the need for missile defence by building its own system. They also say the Kremlin "disingenuously" called for a moratorium on ASAT technology only after it had developed its own version.

But the American ASAT is more sophisticated than the Soviet version. The technology was successfully tested in November when a missile launched from an F-15 fighter soared 500 miles into space where, in deployment, it would have destroyed a satellite.

The Star Wars plan, meanwhile, looks to a system at present beyond the frontiers of technology. The idea is to destroy Soviet missiles along their flight path.

The programme's critics are calling for it to be abandoned. It is also being questioned by some European allies who perhaps fear it could "decouple" the U.S. from Europe's defence.

Critics here say that Mr. Reagan's hopes that it would make

nuclear missiles "impotent and obsolete" are unattainable and that there could be no guarantee of protection against all of the Soviet Union's 10,000 nuclear warheads.

Further, they say such a programme could scare the Kremlin into believing the U.S. was planning a "first strike", making accidental war more likely.

Former Defence Secretary Robert McNamara, George Kennan, former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, former National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy and former Arms Control Negotiator Gerard Smith, have called Star Wars "a prescription for a competition unlimited in expense, duration and danger."

In a jointly written article in Foreign Affairs magazine, they recently declared that the programme would threaten the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty under which the United States and the Soviet Union limited their missile defences.

U.S. officials counter that the treaty does not affect research but acknowledge that the pact would have to be renegotiated if the system were deployed.

That decision would have to be made by a future president.

Meanwhile President Reagan, making final preparations for U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva next week, is holding a series of strategy meetings with advisors to

decide the position he will put to Moscow.

Mr. Reagan, holidaying in Palm Springs, California, mixed business with pleasure Monday, playing golf and conferring with Mr. McFarlane.

Mr. McFarlane delivered a set of six option papers on the Jan. 7-8 talks between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Mr. Reagan at the weekend.

The president reviewed the documents, prepared by the inter-agency group on the Geneva meeting, with Mr. McFarlane Monday and will hold a round-table discussion with Mr. Shultz, Mr. McFarlane and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

"The president is mulling it over. He is studying what it is, the recommendations and will make some final decisions in due course," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said.

Meanwhile Chancellor Helmut Kohl expressed confidence Monday over the outcome of next week's meeting on arms issues between Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko.

In a televised New Year's address, Mr. Kohl said: "I am confident that these negotiations will bring closer our aim (to) create peace with fewer weapons."



A smiling Rajiv Gandhi with a huge marigold flower garland round his neck, as he attended a ceremony in the Indian parliament, where he accepted the leadership of the parliamentary party (AP wirephoto)

Indian cabinet gets mixed response

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's new cabinet, aimed at injecting "new blood" into the Indian administration, Tuesday received a mixed public response.

Mr. Gandhi Monday dropped six ministers and 10 ministers of state in his new 39-member council of ministers, quickly sworn in after his landslide general election victory.

Mr. Gandhi, whose Congress (I) Party swept back to power by winning 398 out of the 508 parliamentary seats at stake, told reporters the emphasis would be on cleanliness, loyalty and efficiency.

Business reaction to the new cabinet was positive. D.H. Pai Panditkar, secretary-general of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said he was very optimistic about the new government.

Trading on the Delhi Stock Exchange was heavy after a 10-day Christmas break, pushing prices up steeply in a boom triggered by the election landslide of India's youngest leader.

But authoritative political commentator G.K. Reddy, in a front-page report in the Hindu newspaper, said Mr. Gandhi had not succeeded in giving a new look to his council of ministers.

"The whole exercise smacked of improvisation in a hurry to complete the cabinet formation on New Year's eve, leaving many gaps in both the allocation of portfolios and the choice of his colleagues," Reddy said.

The new cabinet is dominated by the prime minister's aides and party loyalists, with Mr. Gandhi himself holding 14 ministries until the council is expanded further.

"If people do not come up to the

mark, they will be held accountable," Mr. Gandhi told newsmen.

There is a 14-member inner cabinet and Mr. Gandhi has dropped deputy ministers because he said they had no work to do.

The most surprising change was the sacking of Pranab Mukherjee, a successful finance minister since 1981 and a close adviser to Mr. Rajiv's mother, Indira Gandhi.

Mr. Mukherjee was replaced by Vishwanath Pratap Singh, 53, who quit as commerce minister four months ago to reorganise Mrs. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in the key northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

The state, a stronghold for one of India's national opposition parties, returned Congress candidates in 83 of its 85 parliamentary constituencies.

Pratap Singh now supervises economic affairs in the world's 10th largest industrial country and

is to present a budget in two months' time.

Mr. Gandhi also sacked the country's controversial railway minister, the elderly law minister and his own great aunt who controlled education.

He showed his desire to mould India into a technological giant by personally taking charge of the ministries of electronics, industry, commerce, space and atomic energy and science and technology.

Mr. Gandhi switched the only Sikh in the council, Buta Singh, from parliamentary affairs to agriculture, indicating the importance he attaches to tackling at an early stage the smouldering sectarian crisis in Punjab state.

Punjab, where extremists have fought for an independent Sikh nation, is also known as India's breadbasket because of its high grain output. Mr. Singh has played a key role in trying to pacify the tense state.

Cabinet line-up

The cabinet announced by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Monday is as follows:

Prime minister, external affairs, commerce, environment and forestry, industry and company affairs, science and technology, atomic energy, culture, electronics, ocean development, personnel and administrative reforms, space, tourism and civil aviation, youth affairs, sports — Rajiv Gandhi

Finance — V.P. Singh

Home affairs — S.B. Chavan

Defence and Planning — P.V. Narasimha Rao

Education — K.C. Pant

Works and Housing — Abdul Ghafoor

Law and justice — Ashoke Sen

Irrigation and power — B. Shankaranand

Railways — Bansi Lal

Agriculture and rural development — Buta Singh

Parliamentary affairs — H.K.L. Bhagat

Health and family welfare — Mrs. Mohsina Kidwai

Food and civil supplies — Rao Birendra Singh

Steel, mines and coal — Vasant Sathe

Chemicals and fertiliser — V. Patil.

China to stay open to West, Deng says

PEKING (R) — China's leader Deng Xiaoping, in an effort to reassure old-guard comrades, Tuesday ruled out any swing away from Communism under his drive to turn the country into a major economic power in the 21st Century.

His New Year message that a dose of Capitalism was good for China was splashed across the front pages of the country's main newspapers. "It is harmless, it is harmless," he said.

The Communist Party newspaper People's Daily carried Mr. Deng's remarks under a scarlet masthead, making clear they were aimed at diehard Maoists, some of them fiercely opposed to his campaign to press on with opening up China to the outside world.

"We cannot fail to open up, the open door policy cannot harm us," wrote the 80-year-old leader, who has pushed Capitalist methods to help China modernise.

"I think some old comrades fear

that after they fought all their lives for Socialism, for Communism, suddenly Capitalism is coming back. They can't bear it, they are afraid."

Any bad ideological influences could be dealt with, he said, adding: "If we don't open and we return to a closed self-reliance, then we will never catch up with level of the developed countries within 50 years. It is impossible."

Mr. Deng said that even when average per capita income in China reached a few thousand dollars, there would be no new Capitalist class. "The basic things will still be state-owned, public-owned," he said.

Even after China reached the goal of quadrupling its 1980 gross national product to \$1,000 billion by the end of the century, other goals would require the open door.

Mr. Deng painted a glowing

image of what could be done for education, prosperity and military power — "with 10 billion we could do a lot of things..." he said.

His wide-ranging comments came from a speech made on Oct. 22 to party elders. It was also printed in a book of his recent speeches, published Tuesday under the title "Building Socialism with Chinese characteristics."

Since 1978, Mr. Deng has pressed for foreign investment in China, dismantled Mao Tse-tung's huge communes and restored some private enterprise.

Mr. Deng said Tuesday he was trying to work less to give younger leaders such as Premier Zhao Ziyang and Party Chief Hu Yaobang a freer hand, and hoped to gradually stop working altogether.

"These comrades are full of vigour and are doing a better job than I have done," he said, adding: "It seems I still have something to do at present."

Kampuchean guerrillas suffer more casualties in fresh battle over camp

NONG SAMET, Thailand (R) — At least two Kampuchean guerrillas were killed and dozens wounded in new fighting against Vietnamese troops for control of a resistance base on the Thai-Kampuchean border, Thai military sources said.

They said Vietnamese troops stayed in the camp opposite Nong Samet in spite of earlier guerrilla predictions that they would start pulling out.

Vietnamese troops seized most of the camp from the Kampuchean People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) on Christmas Day.

KPNLF leaders said Monday that intercepted radio messages showed the Vietnamese were preparing to leave the camp.

Kampuchean resistance and Thai sources said the guerrillas lost more ground after a fierce seven-hour Vietnamese artillery assault Monday night and Tuesday morning.

They said the KPNLF managed to hold on to only one-fifth of the sprawling base compared with two-thirds of the area under its control Monday.

The Vietnamese action and their fresh reinforcements Mon-

day indicated that Hanoi might be planning to hold the base for an extended period, the sources said.

The Vietnamese attack on Nong Samet sent 61,000 Kampuchean refugees fleeing into Thailand, the biggest influx in the current Vietnamese dry season campaign against the guerrillas based along the border began in mid-November.

Thailand Tuesday said over 110,000 Kampuchean refugees from different border settlements had sought shelter on its territory since the Vietnamese offensive began.

Indian quake kills 20, injures over 100

GAUHATI, India (R) — At least 20 people were killed and more than 100 injured by a severe earthquake that devastated the southernmost district of Assam state in northeast India, United News of India (UNI) reported.

State government officials here declined to confirm the figure. The official death toll is 15, with more than 40 injured.

Deputy Inspector-General of Police Hari Krishna Deka told Reuters the earthquake struck the mainly tea-growing district of Cachar, 200 kilometres south east of the state capital Gauhati, for one minute at 5.02 a.m. and sent the population fleeing in panic into the streets.

UNI said the Sonai River in the Cachar area had risen 50 feet and breached embankments, flooding extensive areas and leaving thousands of people homeless. High voltage power and telephone lines were damaged, the news agency added.

An official spokesman said it was the worst earthquake in Assam since 1950.

Quoting from police radio reports, Mr. Deka said the quake brought concrete buildings and scores of adobe and thatched huts crashing to the ground and caused gaping cracks in a reinforced concrete bridge over the Sonai River.

Most of the casualties were small children, crushed to death by collapsing mud walls and thatched roofs.

The seismological observatory, at Shillong in the state of Meghalaya, which borders Assam, later said the earthquake measured six on the Richter Scale.

SWAPO ready for more talks on Namibia elections

TUNIS (R) — Namibian guerrilla leader Sam Nujoma has said he was ready for more talks with South Africa, but only to discuss Pretoria's withdrawal from the territory and plans for holding free elections.

Mr. Nujoma, head of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), Monday told a press conference in Tunis: "SWAPO is ready to talk to officials of the racist South African government on modalities of implementing United Nations Resolution 435 and free elections in Namibia."

The U.N. resolution calls for a South African withdrawal from the territory, which it rules in defiance of the United Nations, and

elections under U.N. supervision. Mr. Nujoma met with South African leaders last May, but said the talks had failed due to what he called sabotage by Pretoria. He said South Africa insisted that SWAPO lay down arms and accept Pretoria's policy of tribal homelands for blacks.

Meanwhile five civilians died and at least 14 were injured when a bomb exploded Monday at a post office in northern Namibia, a spokesman for the South African Security Forces said.

Four people were initially reported dead in the blast at Ondangwa, but one of the injured died later in hospital, he said. The spokesman blamed SWAPO, for the blast.

Angolan rebels reportedly capture 22 foreigners

LISBON (R) — Angola's UNITA rebels have said that they were holding three Britons, 17 Filipinos and the two crew of an American transport plane after seizing the Kafunfo Diamond Mines in north-east Angola two days ago.

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) said its forces killed 130 Angolan government soldiers and captured 15 in the Dec. 29 assault on Kafunfo — the second time this year that the rebels had occupied the mines.

A U.S. Hercules transport plane owned by Trans American Airlines of California was mistaken by the rebels for an enemy aircraft when it appeared over Kafunfo and was shot down. UNITA said in Lisbon. The two crewmen were not injured.

Nigeria releases over 2,500 prisoners

LAGOS (R) — Nigerian military leader Muhammad Buhari has ordered the release of over 2,500 prisoners including 144 political detainees to mark the first anniversary of the military's return to power.

In a nationwide broadcast, Major-General Buhari said the measure reflected government policy "that no person will be kept in detention longer than necessary."

He gave no other details but prison authorities have complained that the country's jails, built for 23,000 convicts, are chronically overcrowded.

Last October the military set free 250 people, including former Biafran war leader Emeka Ojukwu, to mark 24 years of independence.

The latest amnesty means that the majority of over 500 politicians and businessmen detained after the overthrow of the civilian government last New Year's eve will be freed.

Gen. Buhari said the names of those being released would be announced later.

Fear of world war led U.K. to build H-bomb

LONDON (R) — The fear that the United States might plunge the world into war was one reason why Britain built a hydrogen bomb, according to government records released Tuesday.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the cabinet in July 1954 that Britain could not maintain its influence as a world power without the most up-to-date nuclear weapons. Britain had already exploded its first atomic bomb in 1952.

The cabinet minute says: "It was at least possible that the development of the hydrogen bomb would have the effect of reducing

the risk of later war.

"At present some people thought that the greatest risk was that the United States might plunge the world into war, either through a misjudged intervention in Asia or in order to forestall an attack by Russia."

"Our best chance of preventing this was to maintain our influence with the United States government, and they would certainly feel more respect for our views if we continued to play an effective part in building up the strength necessary to deter aggression..."

Echoing arguments in the United States that the hydrogen bomb

meant a "bigger bang for your buck", the cabinet was also told the H-bomb was better value for money than the atomic bomb.

The cabinet, authorising the proposal, said careful thought should be given to the "publicity aspect" — how the decision could best be justified to public opinion...

The government announced its decision seven months later, in February 1955. Justifying the move, Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons that British possession of the hydrogen bomb would strengthen nuclear deterrence, which could well prove

the only road to disarmament.

The government records, kept for 30 years, clearly document Britain's occasional distrust of its closest ally.

Ministers were warned that a British decision to run down the garrison in Hong Kong had to be kept secret not just from China but from the United States.

Foreign Secretary Sir Anthony Eden told the cabinet that if the United States knew of the run-down this would prejudice the prospects of establishing a system of collective security in South East Asia with American backing.

Bolivian general fails to get support, surrenders

LA PAZ (R) — A rebellion by Bolivian army chief Gen. Jose O'Leary failed last weekend for lack of support from his fellow officers and right-wing politicians, military sources said Tuesday.

O'Leary, who held out for 24 hours with a cavalry regiment at his La Paz headquarters after refusing a presidential order to resign, surrendered Monday after talks with his replacement Gen. Raul Lopez Leyton.

The failure of his rebellion was partly due to the armed forces' growing respect for democracy in Bolivia, which has seen some 180 coups in 159 years of independence, the sources said.

The military feared that a new coup could plunge Bolivia into civil war and risk trade sanctions from democratic neighbours, increasing strains on the fragile economy, they added.

Right-wing politicians, favoured to win general elections in Bolivia due in June, were also opposed to any insurrection which might spoil their chances in the ballot, party sources said.

President Hernan Siles Zuazo ordered Gen. O'Leary's resignation after the powerful Bolivian Workers Confederation (COB) charged that the army chief was plotting a coup.

Military sources said the president received a similar information from the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, Gen. Simon Sesas Tordeja, a prominent advocate of continued democracy in Bolivia.

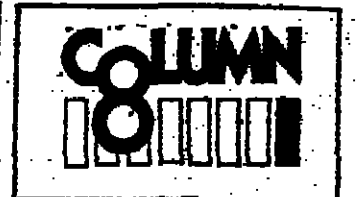
Gen. Sesas Tordeja's support has been crucial to the president in a year in which he has faced seven general strikes, opposition from across the political spectrum and an economy in tatters with inflation heading towards 3,000 per cent.

The military commander-in-chief also took firm action to prevent a coup when Gen. Siles Zuazo was briefly abducted in June. Leftist politicians have ac-

used Gen. O'Leary's decision of involvement in the attempted ouster.

The Communist-dominated COB mobilised hundreds of thousands of workers in support of democracy following the incident, highlighting military fears of violent clashes in the event of an army takeover.

The left is divided following Mr. Siles Zuazo's decision to cut short his term in office and call early elections, and with former President Gen. Hugo Banzer's rightist Nationalist Democratic Action Party (ADN) — one of the front-runners, elements of the military are keen to see the vote take place.



Stamp issued in Mrs. Gandhi's memory

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union has issued a postage stamp in memory of "the outstanding stateswoman and politician, a big friend of the Soviet Union," the late Indira Gandhi, TASS said. The official news agency did not say when the stamp was issued but said it bore a portrait of Mrs. Gandhi, who was assassinated Oct. 31, and the birth and death years "of this glorious daughter of the Indian people."

Chinese girl lived with pigs

PEKING (R) — Chinese doctors are studying the case of a 10-year-old peasant girl who prefers to live, eat and sleep with pigs, the Canton Evening News reported. The girl has shared the pigs' swill, been suckled by sows and slept in their sty at nights. "The pigs never bite her and in fact the temperamental porkers had only to hear her cry and they would come running to her side," said the paper. When people at her Liaoning province home tried to tear her away from her porcine chums she screamed, it said. Although the girl looked quite ordinary, she expressed her feelings awkwardly, her speech was unclear and she grunted and snorted when she was hungry. The paper said experts at the China Medical College concluded that her problems were entirely due to having mixed with pigs for too long.

Daughter keeps mother's corpse for 6 months

FRAMLINGHAM, England (R) — A devoted daughter kept the corpse of her 90-year-old mother at their shared home in this eastern English town for six months because she could not live without her, neighbours said. Hazel Whiting, in her 60s, kept the body in her bed before it was discovered by social welfare workers who alerted police just before Christmas. Neighbours became suspicious after noticing that only Whiting's washing appeared on a line every day. One neighbour said: "Hazel really worshipped her mother... and she could not accept it when her mother died."

Margaux Hemingway breaks pelvis

VIENNA (R) — American movie actress Margaux Hemingway, grand-daughter of Nobel-Prize-winning writer Ernest Hemingway, broke her pelvis in a skiing accident last week, Austrian television said. It said Ms. Hemingway, who was holidaying over Christmas in the ski resort of Garmisch, western Austria, fell while skiing last Friday and was taken to the university clinic in Innsbruck where she had an operation on a broken pelvic bone. "Margaux will have to stay in bed for at least five weeks," Hans Rauschmeier, the surgeon who operated on her, was quoted as saying. She will remain in the clinic for a few more days before being flown to London for further treatment, a spokesman at the clinic said.

Pirate TV station screens Emmanuelle

ZURICH (R) — A pirate television station brought the erotic film "Emmanuelle" to the screens of some Swiss viewers early Tuesday after the state French-language television company dropped plans for a New Year show. Local officials are baffled how the pirate station "Zueri Welle" (Zurich Wavelength) managed to broadcast "Emmanuelle" by cable on a channel reserved for Austrian programmes. The project to screen "Emmanuelle" was shelved after strong protests from religious and political groups. French-language television opted for the Sound Of Music instead.

Elephants kill 5 in Indian village

GAUHATI, India (R) — A herd of wild elephants attracted by the smell of fermenting beer rampaged through a village in India's Assam state, killing five people on Christmas Eve. Assam's chief wildlife conservator, Prafulla Das, told Reuters about 20 elephants attacked villagers when they tried to drive the beasts away from barrels of home-made beer brewed from rice. The incident happened in the remote village of Joyfiddhi, about 160 kilometres from the state capital Gauhati.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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TWO TRICKS JUST VANISHED

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

<p>NORTH</p> <p>♦ K4</p> <p>♦ K5</p> <p>♦ KJ94</p> <p>♦ A10842</p> <p>WEST</p> <p>♥ 88</p> <p>♥ 108642</p> <p>♥ 1063</p> <p>♦ 65</p> <p>WEST</p> <p>♦ A65</p> <p>♥ AQJ973</p> <p>♦ 72</p> <p>♦ 37</p>	<p>EAST</p> <p>♦ QJ10732</p> <p>♦ Void</p> <p>♦ A85</p> <p>♦ KQ93</p> <p>EAST</p> <p>♦ A9J973</p> <p>♦ 72</p> <p>♦ 37</p>
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The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	1 ♠	2 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠.

Despite a loss on today's hand, the team led by Malcolm Brachman of Dallas defeated the squad of Edgar Kaplan of New York to earn the right to represent the U.S. in the 7th World Team Olympiad, to play in Seattle, Wash., this October.

The contract in both rooms was four hearts. For the Kaplan team, North was the declarer and East led the queen of spades. Declarer won on the board and led a